



NEWS
New
golf
carts
PAGE 2



POLITICS
State
rep
primary
PAGE 3



SPORTS
Fall
sports
resume
PAGE 12

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

August 20, 2020 | Vol. 42, No. 24 | \$1.00

www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

Agawam Advertiser saturates local communities

Dear Reader:

We are pleased to provide this week's issue of *The Agawam Advertiser* mailed to every resident in our coverage area for free over the next two weeks. Enclosed you will find a remittance form that you may submit to either start a new subscription or extend your current one.

We resisted the temptation to take to the phones, interrupt your dinner and make our subscription pitch. Instead, our preferred way of continuously growing our readership is to share a couple of copies of the paper with you, enclose a subscription form and await the returns. We're proud of our work and hope you find it brings you closer to understanding your community. We're hoping for a good response from this campaign because we'll then be able to provide even more value to the local businesses that support us.

There are no plans to rest on our laurels. Our pledge is to continue to work hard at providing even better local news coverage. Your suggestions as to how we can do a better job are always welcome. We're a family-owned company with a deep commitment to the towns we serve. We want to meet, and if possible, exceed your expectations.

We'll be arriving at your home next week, too. So please take a moment to consider the service we provide and enjoy the paper. We hope to be arriving at your home every week for years to come. Thanks so much. Enjoy the fall season.

Sincerely,
Patrick Turley
Publisher
Turley Publications
Palmer, MA



PHOTOS BY SHELBY MACRI

The COVID testing site set up at the Agawam Junior High School.

Virus testing site popular

By Shelby Macri
smacri@turley.com

AGAWAM – Agawam Junior High School was used as a site for COVID-19 testing, and continues to be set up and has been accepting people from all over the region. Though the site is located in Agawam, there are independent medical groups

conducting these tests and providing the results to those who get tested.

At the testing site there are two tents set up for people getting tested; the first tent asks for people's information in order to send the results while the second tent verifies personal information before administering the test. This site had been set up for

a few weeks and more testing dates were recently added, the new dates will continue at the Junior High School site. The added dates will be every Tuesday and Thursday from 3 to 6 p.m. until Sept. 10.

The testing site was created by the state and the medi-

COVID | page 4



PHOTOS BY SHELBY MACRI

The Agawam Public Library has helpful signs out front to help people entering. The signs are placed six feet apart to outline where people should stand if a line forms.

Library resumes services in COVID conditions

By Shelby Macri
smacri@turley.com

AGAWAM – Along with many other businesses and town departments the Library has resumed partial operations. The Library reopened in July, only offering hours during Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Since the reopening, it has only been open for in-person browsing for about a month. When the library first reopened, they were mainly doing curbside pick-up, and were taking care to quarantine the books that came back from patrons.

Additionally, the library started the Summer Reading program on July 13. It was a shortened program as it just ended Aug. 14. It was limited,

LIBRARY | page 15

Attorney hired to investigate Morse's conduct

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – As time continues to wane toward the Sept. 1 state primary, the battle between Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse and U.S. Rep. Richard Neal, D-Massachusetts heated up with the start of an investigation by the University of Massachusetts.



Morse has also gone on the attack, accusing the College Democrats who spearheaded the timing of the letter accusing Morse of having inappropriate sexual relationships with students at the school while he was a lecturer at UMass.

Neal's campaign has denied having any part of the "smear job" Morse is claiming.

Morse believes the letter published by the Daily Collegian, a UMass publication, was done to sabotage his candidacy, and blames Neal's campaign for its release.

Morse has released a statement admitting to using dating apps to initiate sexual relationships with students, and acknowledged having such relationships with students attending UMass. Multiple times in multiple publications and forums, Morse has denied using his position of power for sexual gain. He said all his sexual relationships have been consensual and none were with students he was directly teaching.

Natashia Tidwell, an attorney who is a partner at Saul Ewing, Arnstein & Lehr, a Boston law firm, has agreed to launch an in-

MORSE | page 1



413.786.7747 • Fax: 413.786.8457 • Facebook: @AgawamAdvertiserNews • Email: aan@turley.com

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

REP. NICK BOLDYGA HAS A PROVEN TRACK RECORD
NICK HAS VOTED TO LOWER TAXES, CREATE JOBS & CUT WASTEFUL SPENDING
RE-ELECT NICK BOLDYGA SEPT. 1ST
WWW.NICKBOLDYGA.COM
PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT NICK BOLDYGA

IN THIS ISSUE

Classifieds 16

Crossword 17

Public Notices .. 18

Opinion 6

Sports 12

20 PAGES

ARREST LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 398 calls for service from Aug. 10 to Aug. 16 and recorded the following arrests. No arrests in the public log have been omitted. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty.

Saturday, Aug. 15

Melfin Alfaro, 29, of 22 Scott St., Springfield, was arrested at 7:16 p.m. for leaving the scene of a property damage incident, a default warrant for failure to appear, and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.



PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

The current fleet of golf carts at Agawam Municipal Golf Course are in need of replacement.



The Agawam City Council recently approved a lease agreement to purchase a new fleet of golf carts.

Council agrees to lease on new golf carts

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – After rejecting an “emergency,” the Agawam City Council agreed to allow the Municipal Golf Course to enter into a lease agreement for a new fleet of golf carts.

The vote, which occurred at the Aug. 3 council meeting, was not without major discussion as some city councilors have long criticized how the golf course has operated and how the town has had to fund various needs at the golf course.

The Municipal Golf Course is supposed to a self-sustaining enterprise of the town, much like the Water and Sewer departments.

Councilor Dino Mercadante, Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee, said his group met on the issue after the emergency preamble to pass the spending was defeated at the July 13 meeting.

The entire council was present for the virtual meeting to hear about the measure.

Mercadante and other councilors were adamant that taxpayer money, especially during the coronavirus pandemic, not be used to fund the new fleet of carts.

Because of budget shortages, taxpayer money was used to fund the last fleet of golf carts in 2014. Those funds were not paid back to the town, and the service contract has expired recently on the old carts.

The golf course, along with the three privately-owned golf courses in Agawam, have been very busy this summer with a lot of dry weather and limits to what recreational activities are available for people to do.

While general fund money was originally proposed for the cart lease, it was amended to be a payment plan for the golf course and

would come from that self-generating budget.

Councilor George Bitzas said he personally visited the golf course, and left wishing to favor the purchase.

“I talked with the golf course manager and I looked at the golf carts,” said Bitzas.

The course could stand to lose revenue without the new carts, and that could create burden on the taxpayers, golf course management argues.

“If it (the golf course) wants to be a business, it has to be viable, and it has to make it on its own,” said Mercadante.

Councilor Robert Rossi also argued in favor of the golf cart purchase.

“There has been some bad management and administrations,” said Rossi. “But there have been significant changes to the golf course. The golf course is Agawam’s most hid-

den treasure.”

Council President Christopher Johnson echoed many of Rossi’s comments, stating poor administration and management of the golf course marred the business for years after he left the mayor’s office.

Since Johnson became a councilor, improvements have been made. The city council also had an ad-hoc Golf Committee that met for a period of time trying to turn around the business at the golf course. Management also changed hands in recent years, furthering the improvements made to the course.

The owners of the three other golf courses in town wrote letters opposing the purchase.

Eight votes were required to pass the lease agreement, and only Councilor Rosemary Sandlin opposed it.

Tax Free Weekend!
August 29 and 30

LUXURY VINYL PLANK \$574!*
144 sq. ft. installed

We’ve got you covered

Featuring MANNINGTON flooring

ALLIED
FLOORING • PAINT • DESIGN

VISIT US TODAY:

AGAWAM 350 Main Street 413-233-3100	EAST LONGMEADOW 55 North Main Street 413-224-2144
--	--

AlliedFlooringAndPaint.com
*Terms and conditions may apply.

Alan R Cohen
Richard A Cohen
Proprietors
info@agawampackandship.com

Agawam Pack & Ship

Shipping, Packing, Mailbox Rental,
Notary Public, Copy & Fax
Paper Shredding

417 Springfield Street
Agawam, MA 01001
Phone: 413-789-1023
Fax: 413-789-1549

Hours of Operation:
Monday-Friday 9:00 - 6:00
Saturday 10:00 - 2:00

www.agawampackandship.com

PRIMARY - STATE REPRESENTATIVE - THIRD HAMPDEN DISTRICT

Editors note: The Agawam Advertiser News recently asked the same questions of the two Republican candidates for state representative in the Third Hampden District. Candidates were given a cumulative word limit, but had the choice of what questions to spend more or less verbiage on. These two candidates will be up for election at the state primary on Tuesday, Sept. 1.

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Boldyga touts record as state rep

**Nicholas Boldyga,
R-Southwick, Third Hampden District**
Discuss highlights of your current record in your respective elected office and how it shows yours the best candidate.

I'm successfully doing the job of State Representative! My record reflects that I've advocated for broad based reforms like pension, welfare, and tax reform, while at the same time ensuring that our district gets its fair share. My ability to work across the aisle has led to funding district projects. For example, a complete renovation of the Agawam Jr. H.S. Auditorium, a new D.P.W. building in Southwick and most notably, funding to accelerate the Morgan-Sullivan Bridge Project, which will now finish almost a year early! I personally contact people at all hours of the day and night. My constituent services are bar none. Most importantly, I'm the only candidate in this race that can say they've never voted to raise taxes. I have never voted to raise property taxes, meals tax, or any tax for that matter. I'm the only candidate that can proudly say they're looking out for the hard-working taxpayers of our district!

COVID-19 is obviously on the minds of everyone. Among the many difficulties is how small businesses are suffering. What would you do to help these struggling businesses?

I've been working around the clock to meet the needs of struggling business owners and residents. I've helped hundreds of families who have lost jobs or own struggling businesses get the help they need. I've made sure that people received their unemployment checks, helped them with mortgage or rent questions, and ensured they had the resources to apply for grants or loans. In addition, I recently voted for House Bills 4879 & 4802. Both bills provide for small businesses and residents struggling during the pandemic. I supported an amendment allowing restaurants to delay submitting their meals tax revenues for the remainder of the year without penalties or interest. A new Distressed Restaurant Trust Fund was created, which will provide one-time grants of up to \$15,000 to help cover payroll expenses, rent and mortgage, insurance costs, past due payments for supplies, goods or services, and the procurement of personal protective equipment. House Bill 4802 included \$350 million for personal protective equipment, \$111.4 million for



supplemental payments to hospitals and health care providers, \$85 million for field hospitals and shelters, \$45.6 million in early education grants, \$36 million in emergency child care for essential workers, \$15 million for direct wage supplements for home care workers and elder protective services, and funding for a variety of food assistance programs, including the School Breakfast Program \$5.25 million, and the Emergency Food Assistance Program \$9 million.

Outside of COVID, what are the top three issues facing the state as you see it?

Now more than ever, it's important for us to continue to rally and work together as a community. I'm committed to ensuring that Agawam, Granville, and Southwick remain affordable and the best places to live, work, and raise a family. To do that we must continue to improve the quality and affordability of an education for our kids. We must address rising taxes and wasteful spending so our communities remain attractive places for new businesses and families. I know I can't afford more taxes. Can you? Lastly, we need to start talking about affordability for our retirees. They're leaving because they can't afford the property taxes or the cost of living here in Massachusetts.

Do you support the proposal from the state to suspend MCAS for four years? Why or why not?

I'm in support of a moratorium on MCAS testing. As a parent, I know first-hand that education is not a one size fits all issue. Unfortunately, we have boxed students and teachers into "studying for the test" at the expense of innovation in the classroom, inhibiting the unique and creative potential of teachers to teach and students to learn.

There will undoubtedly be a need for cuts in the state budget due lost revenue from the pandemic. What hard cuts would you propose?

I've advocated for local priorities and I've worked around the clock to ensure our district receives its fair share. I believe that cuts can be made to the wasteful spending and frivolous projects that the House leadership has perpetually put forward. I have opposed those earmarks and will continue to do so as a responsible legislator. I'm working to rein in spending, inflated state salaries and fraud, so the hard-working people of our district and Massachusetts won't be stuck with the bill!

Mercadante cites public service on Council

**Dino Mercadante,
Agawam City Councilor**

Discuss highlights of your current record in your respective elected office and how it shows yours the best candidate.

It has been my honor to serve on the Agawam City Council, and to work with my colleagues, both Democrat and Republican, to come to the consensus necessary to move our town's agenda forward. It certainly is not pretty making the cuts necessary or adjusting our tax factor to meet our levy, but these adjustments are crucial and ensure the services our residents rely on are not affected, and our residents and businesses are not overburdened. Additionally, being named Chair of the Finance Committee by our Council President and Vice-President, is something that has given me great pride. Furthermore, while perhaps not something that makes the paper, but my constituent services work is something that is quite important to me. You can ask anyone who has called or stopped by my business to discuss a question or concern. They always have my ear. In the event that I do not have an answer or remedy readily available for them, they always receive a call back in short order with a resolution or how I hope to assist them.

COVID-19 is obviously on the minds of everyone. Among the many difficulties is how small businesses are suffering. What would you do to help these struggling businesses?

As the owner of a small business, I saw firsthand the devastation this pandemic caused. There were days when we had no customers and there were days when it was almost impossible to find the supplies needed, should our customers return. I was proud to work with Mayor Sapelli and my colleagues on the Council on a couple of measures. We created a grant program to help our local businesses get back on their feet and we will be rolling out a second round of grants soon, to further assist. Additionally, I backed a measure that allows indoor dining establishments, or restaurants with limited outdoor dining, the ability to move their operations outside or expand their capacity to allow them to operate while following the state's guidelines. It is not enough, but it is a start, and I am always willing to listen to our business



community on what their specific needs are and how we can help them thrive.

Outside of COVID, what are the top three issues facing the state as you see it?

There are a couple of things that I would say are always a matter of concern to our residents, and those are our economy and our infrastructure. It is critical that folks have access to well-paying jobs so that they may provide for their families. Additionally, our roads and bridges face three seasons of foul weather. It is vital that our transportation infrastructure sees the upgrades, repairs and attention necessary. These projects create jobs, support our local businesses and provide for safe and reliable travel. Finally, and unfortunately, I would say that the opioid epidemic is still a front and center issue for our communities. The state has made investments over the last few years to curb this disease, but it is still present, and it is surging in the midst of this pandemic. We must ensure our schools and our health centers have the tools necessary to aid these individuals and provide supports for their families.

There will undoubtedly be a need for cuts in the state budget due lost revenue from the pandemic. What hard cuts would you propose?

Do you support the proposal from the state to suspend MCAS for four years? Why or why not?

I fully support the proposal. Our teachers are facing a challenge like no other heading into this school year. Right now, the focus should be on keeping our students and our faculty safe while navigating this public health emergency. We need to provide our teachers and our children with the tools necessary to teach and to assist in their learning recovery. The administration of a high-stakes, standardized test should not be the priority.

The House and Senate are planning to take up the budget this fall, in hopes that we may have a clearer picture of our state's economic recovery, as well as the status of any federal relief package. I know that it is the hope that no program will be reduced to pre-FY20 levels, but when so much is unknown at this time, I think it is safe to say, a reduction of some is better than an elimination of any.

agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

Affordable Dentistry

Call us for immediate relief!
We are here to help...



Michael J. Calabrese, D.M.D. M.A.G.D

786-0555

We gladly accept and process your insurance for you Interest-free financing available

New Patients Welcome!

850 Springfield Street,
Suite 2
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

- Invisalign
- Implants
- Root Canals
- Crown & Bridgework
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Extractions



CHH ENGRAVING, INC.
Promotional Marketing

Making Your Message Stick
chhengraving.com

CREATIVE & COST-EFFECTIVE PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS



We've got everything that's cool for
BACK TO SCHOOL!
Apparel, Fundraiser Items, Technology, and more!

chhengraving@cs.com
430 Main Street Agawam, MA 01001
413-789-2041



Virtual 5K to benefit Soldier On scheduled next month

REGION – Due to the ongoing reality of the COVID-19 pandemic, the General Dynamics Soldier On Golf Tournament Committee has decided to postpone the 10th Annual Golf Tournament until the summer of 2021. This was a difficult decision, but necessary as we greatly value our loyal sponsors, players, volunteers, and community as a whole. It was a risk too great to take.

That said, General Dynamics Soldier On Golf Tournament Committee has shown an overwhelming recommitment to the cause of wanting to support Soldier On.

Starting on Monday, September 28 through Sunday, October 4, General Dynamics Mission Systems – Pittsfield, is hosting the Soldier On Virtual 5K! You are invited to register for the 5K Run/Walk/Jog, the September Cash Calendar, the Soldier On Jacket OR YETI Tumbler, or to bundle all three! To bundle make sure to click here.

Last year's golf tournament raised over \$59,000 for Soldier On, which was only possible with your participation and generosity! The funds raised will go toward ending veteran homelessness in the Berkshires and beyond. Soldier On significantly contributes to the improvement of the community and all proceeds from the event will directly benefit veterans who have served our country.

Additional 5K Registration details:

5K participants will have the option to register for one of the categories below and will have the whole week to run/walk/jog the event on their own time.

Participants will be required to register and use the JustMove app to compete, as this tool will track your time, distance, and placement.

5K Categories include the following:

Men's/Women's Race: First place winners will be ranked based on best times as recorded by the JustMove app and will receive a prize.

Teams Race: Teams must consist of 4 participants. Times identified in the JustMove app will be combined after the final race day is complete and the First Place Team will receive a prize.

Just For Fun Race: This option is for those not looking to compete, but rather participate in the 5K for fun. A prize for this race type will be given out at random.

Please visit the SO5K Facebook Page and help us share this wonderful event for an even greater cause. We will be providing additional event information on our Facebook Page such as the Dine to Donate program, swag pictures, jacket sizes, fun routes in the Berkshires, and more. We hope you tag us in your race pictures!

Questions? Contact us. For registration, call Nick Bourdon (413) 464-3063.



Cars lined up and wrapped around the Junior High School for the COVID testing.

COVID ■ from page 1

cal groups were also hired by the state, so while people are tested in Agawam, the town will not have any answers or results to the testing.

The site was set up by the governor and is the furthest COVID testing site west of the Connecticut River. Any resident of the state is able to attend the site to be tested, and Kathleen Auer of the Health Department explained that many people all over Western Mass has been coming to the site for testing. The site won't turn people away as they understand that people need to get COVID testing done.

"There have been people driving in from all over the state, as we are the furthest site and closer to many people in the Western Massachusetts area. Those operating the site aren't turning people away," Auer said. "There have been a few people from Connecticut that have come to the site, and though they are supposed to attend a different site they are not being turned away due to the importance of testing."

Many people need the testing done and to receive a negative test in order to return to work, return to high school/college, or in order to travel. No matter the reason they are getting the test done, they will be accepted at the Agawam site. The only things that the town of Agawam are in charge of, is providing the site and providing Police details during the duration of the testing. Aside from those two things, the town of Agawam is not involved. "There have been

a few people calling in and asking when they'll get their results and how," Auer said. "We've told them that the medical group is responsible for giving results, and we will not have them." She further explained that there are two different groups conducting the testing and the result times vary depending on what lab they send the test to.

Some people have received their results within 24 hours of having the test done, while some people haven't received their results after getting tested a week ago. People should stay patient and mindful that result time will vary, but as long as they verify their information on site they will receive their results. The testing is required on that State's end in order to receive more data on those who have it, those who don't, and those who are asymptomatic. The time was changed to 3-6 p.m. because the days are getting shorter and the town wanted to accommodate for people who work during the day.

The site is also able to give as many tests as they have inventory for, they are not limited by the number of tests as they have prepared many people to come by. There have been more than 300 tests given within a day while the site has been open, and there were still plenty of tests left over. The medical groups are working hard to make sure that they can test as many people as possible. For anyone who needs or wants testing, they need to make sure they go before Sept. 10 as school will be starting soon after and the town will not be able to conduct testing at that site.

Pre-register for hazardous waste collection day

AGAWAM – The Agawam Department of Public Works is planning to hold its annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, Sept. 12 at the DPW Annex, 1000 Suffield Street between 9 a.m. to 12 noon. This event is free to Agawam residents, but pre-registration is required. Appointments may be scheduled by calling the DPW at 821-0600 ext.0 or 821-0624 beginning Monday, Aug. 17.

Due to COVID-19, safety protocols and waste restrictions will be in place. Participants

will be required to wear a mask, remain in their vehicle, and place all waste in the trunk, rear cargo area, or truck bed.

This program offers residents a safe, economical way to dispose of household items that are flammable, reactive, corrosive or toxic. Solvents, pesticides, caustic cleaners, and oil-based paints are some examples of the different types of items that will be accepted. For a more detailed list of acceptable materials visit the town website at www.agawam.ma.us

For K-9s & Felines

GENTLE DOG & CAT GROOMING
NATURAL PET FOOD & SUPPLY STORE

Nicoll Vincent
Owner & Groomer

Yankee Village Plaza
45 Southwick Road
Westfield, MA
413.572.0055

K9sAndFelines.com

FOR ALL YOUR MASONRY NEEDS

HARDY'S PROFESSIONAL MASONRY, LLC

Chimneys • Rebuilds • Repairs
Liners • Concrete • Walkways
Basement Waterproofing • Patios
Foundations • Basement Windows
Hatchways • Retaining Walls •
Stairs • Stonework
Residential & Commercial

For an expert opinion and
FREE estimate call or email
413.786.0020
hardysmasonry@aol.com
hardysprofessionalmasonry.com

Locally owned and operated in Agawam, MA
Licensed & Insured, Senior Discounts

CALABRESE FARMS

CORN, MELONS, PEACHES & WATERMELONS

Tomatoes, Broccoli, Carrots, Beans, Squash, Beets, Eggplants, Cabbage, Cukes, Pickles, Peppers

SNAP & HIP BENEFITS ACCEPTED HERE

257 Feeding Hills Rd., (Rte 57)
Southwick, MA • (413) 569-6417
(ACROSS FROM MOOLICIOUS ICE CREAM)

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

YOUR BEST DEFENSE
ATTY ANTHONY C. BONAVIDA
TRIAL ATTORNEY
413-213-3087
1380 Main St., Suite 410
Springfield, MA
Valet Parking Available

BUY DIRECT AND SAVE \$\$\$

USDA INSP. FROZEN BONELESS **CENTER CUT PORK LOINS..... \$1.29** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH **ST LOUIS PORK RIBS..... \$2.59** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH **PORK SIRLOIN CUTLETS..... \$1.57** lb

USDA INSP. **TURKEY BREAST..... \$3.99** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS **BEEF STRIPLOIN**
CUT FREE **\$4.94** lb WHOLE or HALF

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS **BEEF TOP SIRLOIN STEAKS**
\$3.93 lb

USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY **80% LEAN GROUND BEEF**
7 LB. BAG **\$3.09** lb

USDA INSP. STORE MADE ITALIAN MARINATED **1/2 CHICKEN..... \$1.49** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN **BABY BACK PORK RIBS..... \$3.49** lb

USDA INSP. STORE MADE KOREAN BBQ MARINATED **BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS \$2.29** lb

CUSTOMER PICK OF THE WEEK USDA INSP. STORE MADE ALL VARIETIES TRAY PAK **ITALIAN SAUSAGE..... \$1.99** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH **BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST..... \$1.25** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH 10 LB BAG **CHICKEN THIGH BONE-IN.. 77¢** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN **CHICKEN LEGS 1/4S..... \$14.99** ea

USDA INSP. **FARM FRESH MEDIUM EGGS.... 79¢** dz

90 Meat Outlet
90 Avocado St. Springfield
413-737-1288
www.90meat.com
We reserve the right to limit quantities.

HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4
Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

SALE DATES: 8/20/20 - 8/26/20

BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

State Primary Early Voting available starting this weekend

AGAWAM – Early voting in person will be available at the Agawam Senior Center; 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA on the following dates and times:
Saturday, August 22, 2020 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, August 23, 2020 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Monday, August 24, 2020 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, August 25, 2020 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, August 26, 2020 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Thursday, August 27, 2020 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Friday, August 28, 2020 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

MORSE ■ from page 1

vestigation on behalf of UMass into Morse’s behavior. She will likely conduct many interviews and will be searching for impropriety and Title IX violations committed by Morse.

It is not clear how long an investigation will take, but it is likely to go well behind the Sept. 1 primary. If Morse is unsuccessful in his campaign, the investigation into his contact will have more local impact in his home city of Holyoke, where councilors are calling for investigations and a couple for his resignation.

Morse said in a public statement last week that he welcomes any investigation and believes any investigation will clear him of any possible wrongdoing. He has denied violating any UMass policies.

Morse was a part-time lecturer at UMass from 2014 to 2019, teaching political studies. Morse was just 25 years old when he was hired. UMass has announced Morse was not re-hired for the fall semester. The College Democrats of Massachusetts, which wrote the letter in the Daily Collegian, have disinvited Morse from attending their events in the future.

According to UMass, their policy does not explicitly ban romantic relationships between faculty and students. It does ban relationships between faculty and students in which the faculty member has direct involvement with that student’s education experience at the university, which as being an instructor or even an advisor for an extracurricular activity.

While not banned, student-faculty relationships are “strongly discouraged.”

Neal and Morse were set to meet in debates this week where the issue could come depending on the style of debate.

“Author and Florist AM Grout Delivers Thrills, Mysteries and Spirituality through Petals and Pages!”

A graduate of WNEC, a Master of floral design and a lifelong writer sharing stories about the journey of hope with a spiritual faith in AN ANGEL’S JOURNEY, DEAR BABY, GET OUT! and the Crime Thriller APRIL RAIN!



“FLORIST DELIVERS MYSTERY, THRILLS and SPIRITUALITY” ~ Anrea Bugbee, West Springfield Record

“Five Stars ★★★★★ APRIL RAIN is a Must Read for lovers of Murder Mysteries!” ~ Nancy Carey, WS

“Impressive, Disturbing and Imaginative” ~ K.Cravo, Agawam LC Book Club... “Secrets, Lies and Murder make this book hard to put down!”

SOLD at AGAWAM FLOWER SHOP and on Amazon.com

Residents can sample Bookflix subscription

AGAWAM – The Agawam Library now has a trial subscription to Scholastic BookFlix. Thematically paired fiction and nonfiction titles are designed to bridge learning-to-read and reading-to-learn. Animated classic storybooks introduce early learners to the delights of reading while sparking curiosity, creating a natural springboard into the paired nonfiction text for deeper discovery. After reading the fiction and nonfiction pair, young learners can test their new knowledge with the Puzzlers. Puzzlers are more than just activities. They help build critical comprehension, vocabulary, and other important early literacy skills. The site to access BookFlix is: <http://bookflix.scholastic.com> The username is: bookflix54 The password is: gold BookFlix will be available until Aug. 31. After you try it please let us know what you think. Email us at pweingart@agawamlibrary.org or call 413-789-1550 ext. 3.

Tapestry returns with more COVID testing

AGAWAM - Tapestry will be providing additional COVID-19 testing in Agawam to support Governor Baker’s Stop the Spread testing initiative. “This is a critical time to ramp up testing in order to contain the virus and hopefully avoid the secondary surges that have happened in other states,” said Cheryl Zoll, Tapestry CEO.

Testing will be drive-through, free, and available for both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals. Testing will be done via a self-administered nasal swab and results will be available within 48 hours. Appointments and pre-registration are encouraged, but walk-ins will not be turned away if there is capacity. Please call (413)364-2149 for scheduling. More information available at tapestryhealth.org or mass.gov/info-details/stop-the-spread

Where: Agawam Junior High School, 1305 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01001

When: Testing will be offered from 3pm to 6pm on dates listed below: Thursday, August 20th, 2020; Tuesday, August 25th, 2020; Thursday August 27th, 2020; Tuesday, September 1st, 2020; Thursday, September 3rd, 2020; Tuesday, September 8th, 2020; Thursday, September 10th, 2020



to your plan

Supporting students and transforming lives, Springfield Technical Community College is your local and affordable option this fall! Most classes are online. Some hands-on labs will be taught on campus with social distancing rules in place.



Scan code to learn how STCC is here with you this fall!

Save money!

- 60% of STCC students graduate with ZERO DEBT.
- Dozens of classes with FREE BOOKS.
- A 3-credit class costs just \$771 (before financial aid kicks-in). The same class costs over \$1500 at UMass!

Transfer to a 4-year campus

- Over 400 opportunities to transfer to 4-year campuses.
- Save thousands of dollars through the Commonwealth Commitment.
- Guaranteed transfer to Westfield State, UMass Amherst, or any local college, when requirements are met!

Choose from 3 Flexible Start Dates!

- Sept 8 thru Dec 16 (our traditional semester)
- Sept 8 thru Oct 27 (accelerated 7-week flex term)
- Oct 28 thru Dec 16 (accelerated 7-week flex term)



Got questions?

Our advisors are available for live chat stcc.io/chatnow

or join them Aug 12 & 20 for virtual registration events stcc.io/plan.

Get started at stcc.edu/apply/stcc-to-your-plan

BUDGET Cabinet Sales

Est. 1981

KITCHENS

BATHS

Quality Products at Affordable Prices

300 Main St., Agawam, MA 789-2074

OPEN: Tues., Wed., Sat. 9am-5pm
Thurs., Fri. 9am-8pm; CLOSED SUN. & MON.
budgetcabinetsales.com

KraftMaid

KITCHENS FOR THE REAL LIVING ROOM



Opinion

OUR VIEW

In hard times, we are here

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Interim Editor

I took over as the interim editor of the Agawam Advertiser News in May to help the paper forge on during a difficult time in which so much of our world has changed, and so many terrible things have happened all around us.

People have lived in isolation, and many of our favorite places and favorite activities were forced to shutter or have been severely restricted access.

Something as simple as a trip to Stop & Shop, something I do in this community, is a chore. You have to have a plan, you have to wear a mask, and you're encouraged to go alone, leaving children at home. You're also encouraged to go as quickly as possible, limit contact, and go the right way down the one-way aisles.

That's just one example of how life has changed for the average person.

Like many of you reading, I have watched how our town functions, through Zoom meetings and remote participation in town government, limited access to areas of town we pay taxes to be able to access, like our Town Hall or the spray park, and the track and turf field. It's not fun. I don't enjoy being unable to cover things like the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League, Legion baseball or the fun camps children participate in from Agawam Parks and Recreation.

But slowly, the town has continued to open up, and if you read this week's edition, which has been mailed for free to all of you, you will see some light starting to emerge.

Soccer may return, and fall sports could be on the cusp of happening. The city council will be getting more active, and hopefully, children will be able to return to school.

Our hope and prayer worldwide is that a vaccine for the coronavirus will become available sooner, rather than later, and restaurants will be able to return to full capacity, activities will restart, sports will return to active competition, and we get to do the simple things, like give our friends a hug.

In the meantime, I encourage you to stay strong as we at the Advertiser try to be. We are limited with staffing, but that's where you all come in.

Please contact us. Tell us your coronavirus stories, whether it be about your struggles with home schooling, your feelings about how the town is handling the pandemic, what you think of the plan to open school, and how the governor's ruling affects you right here.

Also, if you have questions, have things you want to know more about while you have limited access, contact us. We'll research and help find your answers.

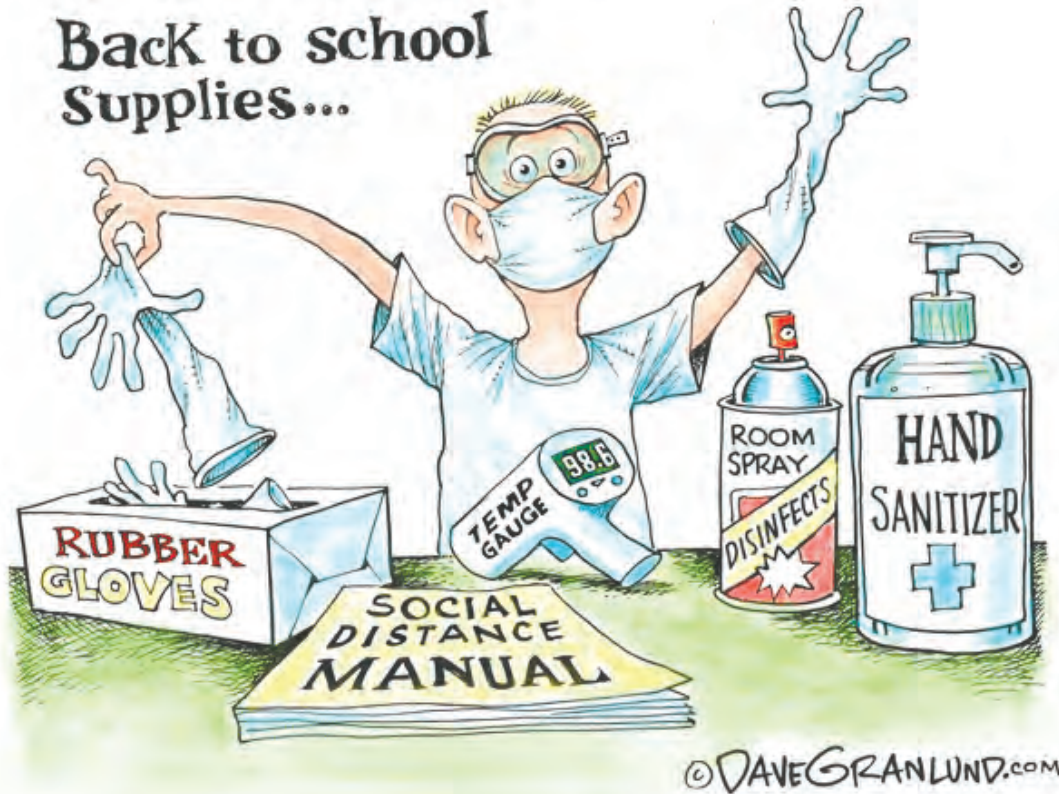
And then we have the upcoming fall election season. With a contested race right here in town for the Third Hampden District state representative, we will be keeping you informed about all your candidates and all of your available voting avenues as the election draws closer.

We are still here. And we will strive to bring you everything you want, and everything you need. In order to do that, we welcome your feedback and your story ideas now more than ever. Please contact us at aan@turley.com. Thank you, stay safe and healthy this coming fall.

Our advertisers make this publication possible.

Let them know you saw their ad in the

Agawam Advertiser



Letters to the Editor

Councilor endorses Mercadante

Dear Editor,

I would like to share my endorsement for Dino Mercadante. I have known Dino and his family for many years. He is an honest, conservative, hardworking man of integrity. He has the willingness to meet every task head on, and desire to work with anyone, Republican or Democrat, for the betterment of his community.

Dino will bring the energy and hard work that he has brought to his business and to the Agawam City Council to Beacon Hill. The residents of Agawam, Southwick and Granville deserve more. They are entitled to more. Its time Agawam, Southwick and Granville get their fair share from Boston, It's time these communities send a representative

to Beacon Hill that will fight for the interest of the 3rd district of Hampden County because we deserve better Representation. I ask that the Independent/Un-enrolled and republican voters, please vote Dino Mercadante in the Sept. 1 Republican Primary.

Anthony Suffriti

Candidate portrayed as cartoon character 'uncalled for'

Dear Editor:

I would like to respond to the recent mailing from Nick Boldyga to Agawam residents, myself included, regarding the upcoming election for State Representative. Elections seem to bring

out the worst in some people, and the mailing by Nick Boldyga referencing Dino Mercadante to the "Hamburglar" is uncalled for. While it is one thing to call out statistics, it is entirely another to depict someone as a cartoon

character. This mailing was an obvious attempt at slander and calls into question the integrity of the candidate that would approve it.

Christine Borrelli

Roadblocks can be faced with God

Dear Editor:

Over that last several weeks I have noticed that there are many roadblocks in our lives aside from COVID-19 if that was not enough to knock us all off kilter. I say this after talking with several friends, family and people in general. The general consensus seems to be about the same, conflicting information on life with COVID-19, employers

who are sending mixed messages, the media who are doing the same thing as employers; people in general have varied opinions on all of it. The one thing I am absolutely sure of is that the one and only thing I can count on is God. Looking to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ gives me my strength. I was talking with Fr. Kisito who is a dear friend of mine from Africa. He shared

this short prayer with me and I am feeling called to share it with you.

Jesus, I love you. All I have is Yours. Yours I am. Yours I want to be. Do with me whatever you wish. Amen.

Blessings,
Deb Briancesco RN
Pastoral Minister
Sacred Heart Parish
Feeding Hills

FAITH MATTERS

"Freedom"

By Ken Blanchard, Pastor
Agawam United Methodist Church

Last month we observed Independence Day. One could argue that independence is not really a Christian concept; it's opposite of the teaching that we need help – we need a savior. We need a community of faith to accompany us on our journey. Maybe we should really call it "Interdependence Day", because even as a forming nation we worked with others to accomplish our goal of freedom. Likewise, we rely on each other to help accomplish things God has called us to. No one stands alone. That is opposite of the rugged individualism we value as Americans. Nevertheless, one of the blessings for which we give thanks is freedom, which we celebrate on Independence Day, and which is very much a Christian concept. But you don't have to be a Christian to recognize it as a gift of God.

Freedom is not just a gift – it's a responsibility. What will we do with our freedom? The gifts God gives us are never for ourselves alone. They are to be shared in service and love for others. All our gifts combined build up the community of faith. That includes the gift of freedom, which is also to be used in service to others.

"I am free to do as I please" is a common refrain heard these days, especially among Americans, and especially among those who, just for an example, refuse to wear a mask during this time of pandemic. I don't want to get political about this so I will just point out that, first of all, wearing a mask is not so much to protect you as it is to protect others from you! People do not always understand that. And so it's a perfect example of how your freedom can be used in service to others! It's a responsibility. On a daily basis our society and our culture tells us to think only about ourselves. But God invites us to think about others and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

3

EASY WAYS TO REACH US

PHONE
413.283.8393
Fax: 413.283.7107
Subscriptions: 800.824.6548

EMAIL
Advertising Sales
John Baskin
jbaskin@turley.com

Interim Editor
Gregory Scibelli
aan@turley.com

Subscriptions
cgriswold@turley.com

\$35 per year pre-paid
(\$40 out of state)
Newsstand \$1.00

WEB
www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

@Agawam Advertiser News

The Agawam Advertiser News is published by Turley Publications, Inc. • www.turley.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and length. The deadline is Monday at noon. Please send letters to Agawam Advertiser News, care of Turley Publications Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, or e-mail aan@turley.com.

AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

The *Agawam Advertiser News* (USPS 001-170) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

INTERIM EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
aan@turley.com

STAFF WRITER
Shelby Macri
smacri@turley.com
Peter Spotts
peterspotts@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
John Baskin
jbaskin@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

SOCIAL MEDIA



@AgawamAdvertiserNews

WEB
www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

Turley
Publications, Inc.
www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

Agawam firefighter among academy graduates

SPRINGFIELD – State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey and Massachusetts Firefighting Academy (MFA) Director David C. Evans announced the graduation of the 15th class to complete the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's 50-day Career Recruit Firefighting Training Program at the Springfield campus on Aug. 14, 2020.

14 Graduates from 10 Fire Departments

The 14 graduates represent the 10 fire departments of Agawam, East Longmeadow, Easthampton, Granby, Holyoke, Ludlow, Southbridge, and Springfield.

"First responders are on the frontlines protecting their communities and these newest firefighters are needed more now than ever. We have taken advantage of technology, reduced class size to increase social distancing, implemented daily screening, and required mask-wearing to keep our instructors and students as safe as possible during these uncertain times," said State Fire Marshal Ostroskey. MFA Director Evans said, "This rigorous professional training provides our newest firefighters with the basic skills to perform their jobs effectively and safely."

"Being able to provide training closer to where western Massachusetts firefighters live and work has long been a goal of the Department of Fire Services and the fire service leadership," he added. The MFA, a division of the Department of Fire Services, offers this program, tuition-free.

Today's Firefighters Do Far More than Fight Fires

Today's firefighters do far more than fight fires. They are the first ones called to respond to chemical and environmental emergencies, ranging from the suspected presence of carbon monoxide to a gas leak. They may be called to rescue a child who has fallen through the ice or who has locked himself in a bathroom. They rescue people from stalled elevators and those Career Recruit Firefighter Class #S15 Graduates Page 2 who are trapped in vehicle crashes. They test and maintain their equipment including self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), hydrants, hoses, power tools, and

apparatus.

At the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, they learn all these skills and more from certified fire instructors who are also experienced firefighters. Students learn all the basic skills they need to respond to fires, to contain and to control them. They also receive training in public fire education, hazardous material incident mitigation, flammable liquids, stress management, confined space rescue techniques, and rappelling. The intensive, ten-week program for municipal firefighters involves classroom instruction, physical fitness training, firefighter skills training, and live firefighting practice.

Training Safely During Pandemic

In response to the pandemic, the 10-week curriculum was reorganized to take advantage of online learning technology while ensuring plenty of practical skill experience on-campus with instructors. Students alternated between the virtual classroom for two weeks, on campus for practical training (using special safeguards and social distancing) for four weeks, back to the virtual classroom for a week, returning to campus for two weeks and finishing the final week in the virtual classroom.

Basic Firefighter Skills

Students receive classroom training in all basic firefighter skills. They practice first under nonfire conditions and then during controlled fire conditions. To graduate, students must demonstrate proficiency in life safety, search and rescue, ladder operations, water supply, pump operation, and fire attack. Fire attack operations range from mailbox fires to multiple-floor or multiple-room structural fires. Upon successful completion of the Recruit Program all students have met the national standards of National Fire Protection Association 1001 and are certified to the level of Firefighter I and II, and Hazardous Materials First Responder Operational Level by the Massachusetts Fire Training Council, which is accredited by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications.

Baystate Health announces new visitor check-in, effective Monday, Aug. 3

SPRINGFIELD – For the continued safety of patients, visitors and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, effective Monday, Aug. 3, all Baystate Health hospitals will be implementing a visitor check-in log as part of its visitation policy.

Visitors to Baystate Medical Center and Baystate Children's Hospital in Springfield, Baystate Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield, Baystate Noble Hospital in Westfield, and Baystate Wing Hospital in Palmer, will be asked to provide their full name and phone number to be recorded in the log, as well as the name of the patient they are visiting. Visitors must also provide a photo ID.

In June, Baystate Health resumed hospital visiting hours which are daily from noon to 8 p.m.

Visitors coming to Baystate Medical Center should allow for extra time for our enhanced check-in process, especially during peak visiting hours from 12 to 1 p.m.

One visitor at a time is allowed in the hospital for non-COVID patients at Baystate Medical Center, Baystate Noble Hospital, Baystate Wing Hospital and Baystate Franklin Medical Center. Baystate Children's Hospital allows one parent/guardian or one visitor of patients. No visitors are allowed in our emergency departments.

No visitors are allowed for COVID patients at all hospitals, except:

Patients under the age of 18 are allowed one parent or guardian.

OB patients who are in labor are allowed 1 birthing partner.

Hospice patients and end-of-life patients are allowed 1 person and 1 clergy member per day.

Patients with disabilities, including physical and cognitive, are allowed 1 companion.

Visitors must travel directly to and from the patient's room when entering and leaving the hospital and will not be permitted in common areas such as waiting rooms, cafeterias or gift shops.

The visitation process for patients attending outpatient appointments or visiting outpatient practices remains the same, no visitors can accompany patients. Exceptions are as follows:

One parent/guardian for a patient 18 years old or younger.

One companion for patients with disabilities, including physical and cognitive.

Masks must be worn correctly at all times at all Baystate Health facilities. Visitors wearing masks with vents are not allowed and will be issued an approved mask from the hospital.

All visitation is at the discretion of Baystate Health.

For the latest information on visitor guidelines, visit baystate-health.org/visitors.

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT



"My work on the City Council has been one of my greatest joys. The opportunity to work for and give back to a community that has given me so much, has truly been a privilege. In that time, I have been honored to work with our Mayor and my longtime friend, Bill Sapelli. We have a direct line to one another and have had the pleasure of collaborating on many issues, allowing us the ability to deliver for the Town of Agawam, time and time again. I know that given the opportunity to serve you as your State Representative, our respect for one another and our ability to work together will allow us to do great things for this community."

Independent/Unenrolled and Republican Voters, please vote Dino Mercadante in the September 1st Republican Primary. Early, in-person voting runs from August 22nd-August 28th.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Dino Mercadante



**DINO
MERCADANTE
State Representative**

Virtual Dana Farber fundraiser at Fenway

BOSTON – For the first time in history, Fenway Park does not have fans in the stands during Boston Red Sox games. But fans can still cheer on the home team and support cancer care and research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute through Fill Fenway for the Jimmy Fund presented by John Hancock. This virtual fundraiser encourages donations of \$10 or more to secure “seats” at Fenway Park with the goal of filling all 37,731 seats.

When fans visit Fill Fenway for the Jimmy Fund, they can learn about the Red Sox and Jimmy Fund’s historic partnership, engage with 2020 Jimmy Fund Captain Mitch Moreland, and meet the Jimmy Fund Starting Nine powered by Franklin Sports, an honorary team made up of Dana-Farber pediatric and adult patients.

All virtual seats include access to the Centerfield Scoreboard Tribute Wall, where guests are encouraged to share messages of support for Dana-Farber patients, as well as the chance to put themselves in the action by participating in an online photo

booth powered by Coca-Cola.

With a donation to Fill Fenway, donors are entered to win a prize package courtesy of John Hancock, including two tickets to a 2021 home game and the opportunity to watch an inning inside the historic Green Monster. To purchase tickets, please visit JimmyFundFillFenway.org.

The Jimmy Fund, established in Boston in 1948, is comprised of community-based fundraising events and other programs that, solely and directly, benefit Dana-Farber Cancer Institute’s lifesaving mission to provide compassionate patient care and groundbreaking cancer research for children and adults. The Jimmy Fund is an official charity of the Boston Red Sox, the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, the Pan-Mass Challenge, and the Variety Children’s Charity of New England.

Since 1948, the generosity of millions of people has helped the Jimmy Fund save countless lives and reduce the burden of cancer for patients and families worldwide.

Stormwater Management Plan available for viewing

AGAWAM – Under the Federal Clean Water Act, municipalities throughout Massachusetts are required to reduce the amount of stormwater pollution enter our waters. The Town of Agawam received its current Phase II Stormwater NPDES permit on October 1, 2016. The intent of the regulations is to reduce the adverse impacts of water quality and aquatic habitat by controlling unregulated sources of stormwater discharges. Unregulated sources of stormwater discharges would include but not be limited to: excess fertilizers, herbicides, and insecticides from agricultural lands and residential areas, oil, grease, and toxic chemicals from urban runoff and energy production, sediment from improperly managed construction sites, crop and forest lands and eroding streams, and bacterial and nutrients from livestock, pet wastes, and faulty septic systems. The NPED Permit regulations require municipalities to develop and implement a stormwater management program that addresses six minimum control measures:

- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Involvement and participation
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control
- Post-Construction Stormwater Management
- Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping

To learn more about Agawam’s Stormwater Management Program visit www.agawam.ma.us/NPDES Comments may be made by emailing stormwater@agawam.ma.us

FAITH ■ from page 6

There’s a scripture in Galatians 5:13-15 that says (in The Message paraphrase): “It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don’t use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that’s how freedom grows. For everything we know about God’s Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That’s an act of true freedom. If you bite and ravage each other, watch out—in no time at all you will be annihilating each other, and where will your precious freedom be then?”

I love the way that is worded. I love the truth it conveys. I love the God-given freedom we enjoy! Loving God first and foremost means loving neighbor as self. The freedom we are blessed with is the freedom to care about other people – to see all people of all nations, races, religions, sexual orientations, financial statuses, ages and genders as equal in the eyes of God. We are all children of God. Those of us who count ourselves as Christians – whether in the United States of America or around the globe – have been given the freedom in Christ to serve, not just because we have a responsibility to serve, but because the love God gives us is something that always needs to be put into action and reflected in service to others. For that we can be thankful. We are free to recognize our inter-dependence, and how our gift of freedom contributes not just to our own good, but also to the good of all. It’s truly worth celebrating and being thankful for – not just on the 4th of July in this country – but always and everywhere. Amen



“We Treat Your Property As We Would Our Own”

- RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL •
- CONDOMINIUMS •

Jimmy Stellato - Owner
Fully Insured Fully Guaranteed

- Lawn Maintenance
- Landscape Design & Installation

- Spring & Fall Clean-Ups
- Trimming & Pruning
- Sodding • Seeding

- Mulch & Stone Installation
- Snowplowing & Sanding

10% OFF
Overseeding or Aerating
(new accounts only)

Schedule Your Fall Cleanup Now!

Feeding Hills
789-6382



• AUTO • HOME • RENTERS • BUSINESS OWNERS • WORKERS COMP • LIFE • HEALTH

868 SPRINGFIELD ST, FEEDING HILLS • (413) 789-3995

WWW.CANARYBLOMSTROM.COM

CALL, STOP BY OR VISIT US ONLINE FOR A FREE REVIEW AND QUOTE!

ONSITE REGISTRY & NOTARY SERVICES AVAILABLE

Christopher Heights™ now offers new living option packages for every season of your life.

Christopher Heights Assisted Living now offers Senior Lifestyle Plans to fit your way of life while providing quality care in a warm and supportive environment. Enjoy everything our community has to offer as well as the freedom of your own apartment. Whatever the season, Christopher Heights has options!

For more information, call today at 413-570-4201. We’d love to hear from you!



CHRISTOPHER HEIGHTS™ of Northampton
AN ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITY



Advocacy & Services for LGBT Elders
We refuse to be invisible™



50 Village Hill Road • Northampton, MA 01060

To learn more about Christopher Heights Assisted Living or to take a virtual tour of our community visit:

www.christopherheights.com



Warm humid weather ramps up mosquito population and EEE threat

PALMER – As of Aug. 15, the second confirmed human case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis of the season has been detected in Massachusetts. A woman in her 60s from Hampden County in the western part of the state tested positive on Saturday, according to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH).

As a result, the risk level for EEE in Wilbraham has been raised to critical and the risk level in Hampden and Monson has been raised to high. Other communities in the region have been raised to a moderate risk for the mosquito-borne illness, officials said.

Mosquito season is usually associated with the hotter summer months, but it actually begins much earlier and extends well into autumn.

If you've been outside recently you may have noticed that mosquitoes are out in full force.

Some mosquitoes carry germs that can make people and some animals sick. While some mosquito bites will only itch, others can carry potentially dangerous illnesses. In Massachusetts, the diseases linked to mosquitoes are West Nile virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) virus.

As the threat of EEE rises in Massachusetts, the community needs to take precautions when outdoors.

"The best way to prevent illnesses from mosquito bites is to protect yourself and your family from bites," said Dr. Robert Spence, chief of Emergency Medicine for Baystate Wing Hospital and

Baystate Mary Lane Outpatient Center.

It is possible that some people who become infected with mosquito borne viruses may not develop any symptoms or in some cases only flu-like symptoms. The incubation period for the virus from the time of an infected mosquito bite to onset of illness ranges from four to 10 days and the illness can last one to two weeks," said Dr. Spence. "There is no specific treatment for EEE. Antibiotics are not effective against viruses, and no effective anti-viral drugs have been discovered for the treatment of EEE. Severe illnesses are treated by supportive therapy, which may include hospitalization, respiratory support, IV fluids and prevention of other infections."

According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, there are over 3,000 different kinds, also called "species," of mosquitoes identified worldwide, with more than 150 different kinds of mosquitoes found in North America. Fifty-one different kinds of mosquitoes have been found in Massachusetts. Mosquitoes are attracted to carbon dioxide, a gas that humans and other animals breathe out and can follow a stream of carbon dioxide from as far as 50 feet away.

Mosquitoes need stagnant water in order to lay their eggs and what most people don't realize is the surprising number of areas around their own house where mosquitoes can find the stagnant water they need. All a female mosquito needs is a bottle cap of water to lay 100 to 200 eggs, once

the eggs are laid, they hatch into larvae within 24 to 48 hours, so any temporary body of water that is present for more than a week can be a mosquito breeding habitat.

EEE is relatively rare in humans, although there are occasional outbreaks in certain regions of the country. Fewer than 100 people have died from EEE in Massachusetts in the past 75 years, according to the Department of Public Health. In the United States, approximately five to 10 EEE cases are reported annually. The risk of getting EEE is highest from late July through September when more mosquitoes are present and active.

West Nile virus (WNV) is a mosquito-carried virus most commonly spread to people through the bite of an infected mosquito.

"The majority of people who are infected with WNV, some 80% will have no symptoms. A smaller number of people who become infected, less than 20% will have symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting, and sometimes swollen lymph glands. Less than 1% of people infected with WNV will develop severe illness, including encephalitis or meningitis. There is no specific treatment for WNV infections. People with mild WNV infections usually recover on their own. People with severe WNV infections almost always require hospitalization," said Dr. Spence. He encourages community members to follow The Department of Public Health tips that will help people protect themselves and

their loved ones from illnesses caused by mosquitoes:

Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours: The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning.

Apply Insect Repellent when Outdoors: Use a repellent with DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluidide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-methane 3, 8-diol (PMD)] or IR3535 according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under three years of age.

Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites: Wearing long-sleeves, long pants and sock when outdoors will help keep mosqui-

toes away from your skin.

Mosquito-Proof Your Home and Drain Standing Water: Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. They can begin to multiply in any puddle or standing water that lasts for more than four days. If you have a bird bath in your yard, be sure to empty it daily and refill with fresh water. Remove containers that may hold water in places that are hard to see such as under bushes, porches, decks, or stairs.

Install or Repair Screens. Keep mosquitoes outside by having tightly fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

More information about different types of mosquitoes that can spread the virus can be found on the MDPH website at mass.gov/dph/wnv. For more information about emergency care visit Baystate Wing Hospital or Baystate Mary Lane Outpatient Center.

Agawam Advertiser News OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.



We are back open, newly remodeled, clean and very safe!



CALL TODAY! **413-786-1460**
WWW.FITNESSFIRSTHEALTHCLUB.COM
60 NORTH WESTFIELD ST | FEEDING HILLS CENTER

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

**30 Days
for
\$35**
(Reg \$49)

Skin Cancer Foundation cautions against unprotected sun exposure

Vitamin D is essential for strong bones and a healthy immune system. While a limited amount of the vitamin can be obtained from exposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation, the suggestion that the best way to obtain vitamin D is through sun exposure is both misleading and dangerous. The health risks of UV exposure including skin cancer are serious and well-documented. While many people have found their time outdoors severely limited because of COVID-19, some may misguidedly forgo sun protection completely in an effort to obtain vitamin D. Instead of damaging your skin, The Skin Cancer Foundation suggests you get your vitamin D from sources like oily fish, fortified dairy products and cereals and supplements.

"Too many people believe that exposure to the sun's radiation is the optimal way to obtain vitamin D, and that using sunscreen leads to vitamin D deficiency," says Deborah S. Sarnoff, MD, president of The Skin Cancer Foundation. "In reality, unprotected UV exposure can put people at risk for potentially life-threatening skin cancer and it isn't the most effective way to reach your vitamin D quotient."

Humans can produce only a limited amount of vitamin D

from UV radiation. For Caucasians, that limit is reached after just five to 10 minutes of mid-day sun exposure. After reaching the limit, further exposure will not increase the amount of vitamin D in the body. Rather, it has the opposite effect: the vitamin D stored in the body begins to break down, leading to lower vitamin D levels.

Spending time in the sun (whether outside or beside a window) in an attempt to achieve higher vitamin D levels can have serious consequences for the skin, however. About 86 percent of melanomas, the most dangerous of the three most common skin cancers and 90 percent of nonmelanoma skin cancers are associated with exposure to UV radiation. To lower your risk of developing skin cancer, The Skin Cancer Foundation has always recommended sunscreen use as part of a complete sun protection routine, including seeking shade and covering up with clothing. Since some types of UV rays can penetrate window glass, this should hold true even on days you do not venture outside. Studies have shown that regular use of an SPF 15 or higher broad-spectrum sunscreen reduces your chances of developing squamous cell carcinoma by about 40 percent, melanoma

by 50 percent and premature skin aging by 24 percent.

Researchers have never found that everyday sunscreen use leads to vitamin D insufficiency. It's more than possible to maintain healthy vitamin D levels while incorporating sunscreen and other sun protection into your daily routine. Vitamin D can be obtained with far safer and more effective options, including oily fish (like salmon, fresh tuna, trout and sardines) and cod liver oil, as well as from fortified orange juice and milk, yogurts, and some cereals. Supplements are also readily available and inexpensive.

The Skin Cancer Foundation is the only global organization solely devoted to the prevention, early detection and treatment of skin cancer. The mission of the Foundation is to decrease the incidence of skin cancer through public and professional education and research. Since its inception in 1979, the Foundation has recommended following a complete sun protection regimen that includes seeking shade and covering up with clothing, including a wide-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses, in addition to daily sunscreen use. For more information, people may visit SkinCancer.org.

Second Chance vet hospitals continue to innovate

Second Chance Animal Services is rising to the challenges presented by COVID-19, continuing to innovate for the health of Massachusetts pets. Last month the nonprofit's three veterinary hospitals found a way to safely restore lifesaving vaccine clinics and put a plan in place to cut down on the significant backlog of pets waiting for spay/neuter surgery.

Second Chance had to put their popular weekly vaccine clinics on hold indefinitely in March to safeguard the health of pet owners and staff. In July, they slowly rolled out a new format where pet owners pre-register and arrive at their reserved time slot. "We thought this was a temporary fix, but pet owners loved the new format," said Second Chance Chief Operating Officer Amanda Normandin. "No more waiting in line, no more filling out paperwork while minding a pet, and so much less stress on the pets."

The nonprofit's low-cost spay/neuter program continues to face a backlog of pets waiting due to an almost three-month suspension. The wait for cats is especially significant, so in July the North Brookfield location began scheduling catch up days, starting with a 50 male cats per day. Second Chance surgeons are specially trained in high-volume spay/neuter, but typically see a mix of female cats and dogs each day resulting in extra time spent resetting between cats and dogs and male and female. Concentrating on a single surgery format allows veterinary staff to help more pets in one day.

Second Chance CEO Sheryl Blancato says she's grateful to be able to restore these two important programs. "As the pandemic began to close down Massachusetts, we began to worry about a second health crisis. Vaccine clinics are instrumental in stopping the spread of rabies and parvo and suspending this program weighed heavily on my mind," Blancato said she expects the backlog of pets waiting for the spay/neuter program to continue throughout the remainder of 2020. "There are still hundreds of applications awaiting scheduling at each of our locations. We are doing everything we can to get caught up and ask for continued patience."

Pet owners interested in registering their pet for an upcoming vaccine clinic can visit secondchanceanimals.org or watch the Second Chance Animal Services Facebook for registration announcements. The spay/neuter SPOT application, which stands for Stop Pet Overpopulation Today, can also be found on the website. Second Chance is scheduling spay and neuter appointments in the order they were received, so new applicants may not receive a call until September or later. The vaccine clinics and spay/neuter program are available at all Second Chance Community Veterinary Hospitals with locations in North Brookfield, Springfield and Worcester. Full-service veterinary care is also available by appointment, and subsidized rates are available for qualified households.

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

RE-ELECT

NICHOLAS

BOLDYGA

REPRESENTATIVE



HE'S WORKING FOR US!



VOTE SEPT. 1ST

THE CHOICE IS CLEAR

WWW.NICKBOLDYGA.COM

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT NICK BOLDYGA

Massachusetts RMV extends promotional opportunity for future free REAL ID upgrades up to one year

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is extending the timeframe for which eligible customers can renew their Massachusetts driver's license or Massachusetts ID card online at Mass.Gov/RMV in order to qualify for a free upgrade to a REAL ID credential in 2021. This promotional opportunity, authorized and now extended by Executive Order, will remain in effect until Massachusetts' State of Emergency is lifted to provide customers more time and flexibility to conduct transactions and to support the RMV's ongoing efforts to implement social distancing protocols while limiting in-person service center visits to keep customers and staff safe.

Customers are eligible to renew online and take advantage of this offer up to one year in advance of the expiration date printed on their license or ID, or up to two years after the expiration date. Customers will not be able to seek their free REAL ID upgrade until at least six months after the State of Emergency is lifted.

"Customers have shown a great deal of interest in this REAL ID initiative, and we are pleased to further extend the promotional timeframe which will allow even more individuals additional time to renew their license or ID online now and upgrade later to REAL ID at no cost if they need one," said RMV registrar Jamey Tesler. "While limited in-person license renewal appointments are now available, we ask that all our customers please continue to take advantage of the expiration extensions and online renewals so that appointments can be preserved for those without any other alternative. The RMV is continuing to provide customers with resources and tools that can be used to stay safe and save time without having to visit a service center during the pandemic."

The RMV has seen a dramatic increase of close to 300% in online renewals by customers during the pandemic and this promotional opportunity period. More than 70,500 online renewals were completed between the promotion's June 12th start date and July 31st, compared to just 25,000 over the same time period in 2019. In July 2020 alone, there were almost 48,000 online credential renewals, compared to just 16,100 in July 2019. The RMV has bolstered back of-

fice support efforts to accommodate this increased demand.

Beginning in mid-August, limited in-person license renewal appointments became available in Service Centers for customers. The RMV suspended those in-person transactions due to the pandemic and applied multiple extensions to expiring licenses and IDs as outlined below. The RMV asks that those who can renew online please do so and preserve these limited appointments for those individuals with credentials expiring in September 2020 who cannot, especially if their license or ID currently benefits from an extension.

Qualifying customers who complete their renewal online and wish to upgrade to a REAL ID for free will have to wait until at least six months after Massachusetts' State of Emergency is lifted to visit an RMV Service Center. Customers currently do not need a federally compliant REAL ID for the purposes of boarding domestic flights prior to October 1, 2021, as the federal government delayed the compliance effective date by one year. The fee for renewing a non-commercial standard or REAL ID license is \$50, while the fee for upgrading to a standard or REAL ID card is \$25. The typical \$25 upgrade / amendment fee will be waived under these qualifying circumstances.

Obtaining an initial federally compliant REAL ID requires customers to visit a Service Center in-person to present verifying documents. The RMV has introduced this initiative and fee waiver pursuant

to the recently extended Executive Order 39 issued by Governor Baker on June 12, 2020, and in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency to encourage social distancing and limit unnecessary travel by reducing the need for many customers to visit a Service Center. This also allows for the prioritization of essential in-person transactions, which remain by appointment only.

Customers should take the following steps to determine their online renewal eligibility and qualify for this offer:

Visit Mass.Gov/RMV, login to their "myRMV" account, and find out if they are permitted to renew online.

Renew online - their new standard license or ID card will be sent via U.S. mail.

The cost for renewing a driver's license is \$50. The cost for renewing an ID card is \$25. These costs are the same for both a standard or REAL ID license or ID card. The cost for upgrading or amending a license or ID card outside of their renewal cycle is \$25, which will be waived for participating, eligible RMV customers.

Customers who renew online will have to wait until at least six months after Massachusetts' State of Emergency is lifted to make an appointment for a REAL ID and have their \$25 upgrade / amendment fee waived. Anyone who holds a valid U.S. passport or other federally compliant form of identification may never need an RMV-issued REAL ID.

As a service to its members, AAA continues to issue REAL ID creden-

tials for their members only and members should make an appointment before visiting a AAA location.

Limited in-person license renewal reservation appointments are now available in RMV Service Centers for customers. The RMV asks that those who can renew online please do so, especially if their license or ID currently benefits from an extension, thus preserving these appointments for those individuals with credentials expiring in September 2020 who cannot renew online.

While the RMV has previously announced the below automatic extensions to certain expiring licenses and ID cards, all eligible customers are encouraged to take advantage of this offer by renewing online up to one year prior to their expiration date:

Driver's licenses and ID cards that expired or were set to expire in March, April, and May 2020 have been extended until September 2020.

Driver's licenses and ID cards that expired or were set to expire in June have been extended until October 2020.

Driver's licenses and ID cards that expired or were set to expire in July have been extended until November 2020.

Driver's licenses and ID cards that will expire in August have been extended until December 2020.

The following provisions of Governor Baker's Executive Order 39 relative to RMV operations

have also been extended until Massachusetts' State of Emergency is lifted:

- Extends the 'grace period' requirement for vehicle registration transfers after a vehicle purchase from 7 days to 21 days.

- Extends the ability for junior operators with a learner's permit to complete an additional six hours of supervised driving hours with a parent, guardian or other adult over 21 with a valid license for over a year, for a total of 46 hours of supervised driving, in lieu of the six-hour requirement for observing another student driver. This minimizes the need to spend additional time in a vehicle with individuals from different households, which is discouraged under current public health and reopening guidelines for driving schools.

All RMV customers are encouraged to visit the RMV Online Service Center or www.Mass.Gov/RMV to renew their license or ID card, and complete one of over 40 other transactions available online, by mail, or by phone.

For details on these and other credential expiration date extensions and additional information on RMV service offerings during the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit www.mass.gov/rmv or <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/rmv-covid-19-information>.

Happy Birthday Fr. Jim!

We Love You & Miss You!



The Outcome for Retirement = Income

Let me help you create a retirement income plan based on safety and reliability.

Have you coordinated your 401k distributions with your social security benefits? Contact me for an appointment to maximize your social security benefit and minimize your taxes.

Request a free income illustration today which will show you how much income your retirement assets will provide.

Over 20 years helping clients create retirement income.



Find us on Facebook

Susan Allen Financial

Set up a confidential appointment
413-569-0035

sallen.allenfinancial@hotmail.com

Impressions Academy of Dance

Join Us for Our 17th Year!

- ✓ In Person & Virtual Classes Offered
- ✓ Daytime Classes for Pre School Dancers
- ✓ Small Class Size for Social Distancing
- ✓ In Person Registration by Appointment Only
- ✓ Easy Online Registration

Offering Classes for Dancers Ages 2 to adult

- Ballet • Tap • Jazz • Acro • Lyrical
- Irish Step • Contemporary • Hip Hop



Put a SMILE on your child's face and give the gift of DANCE!



Melissa Landry - Director 848 Suffield Street, Agawam (Southgate Plaza)
413-786-5620 | impressions-dance.net

It's time to schedule an A/C tune-up!



Carrier
Turn to the experts

Propane • Oil • Fireplaces • Heating • Hot Water HVAC • Pool Heaters • Generators • Service Plans
24-Hour Emergency Service

STATE LINE
PROPANE • OIL
SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATIONS
StateLinePropaneOil.com
Lic. S1: 303179 • P1: 204150 • HOD: 737 • 478

OIL • HVAC
413-998-0090
PROPANE
413-998-0080
500•514 Salmon Brook St.
Granby, CT



SPORTS

New guidance from state would allow fall sports

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – With new guidance out from the state and several of its agencies, it appears there will be an avenue to play high school sports this fall, though a number of them may not be in the form people will be used to.

And “people” may not be allowed to watch them.

Last week, more guidance was issued involving the return to school for students, with Gov. Charlie Baker putting out a new map that uses a traffic signal system to deem certain communities at low, moderate, or higher risk for coronavirus positive test rates.

Baker further recommended that the majority of communities, which are in either the green or alternate white category with almost no positive tests in the past two weeks, should return to school full time.

Only two Western Mass. communities were labeled as “high-risk” in Granby and Holyoke. It is not known if Baker and state health officials or the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association will use the map to exclude school districts in high-risk communities from being able to play.

Meanwhile, the MIAA’s COVID-19 Task Force, the Sports Medicine Committee, and other agencies are working with the

state to make modifications to certain sports in order to be able to have contests this fall.

Among the sports that are likely to be played are field hockey, cross country, golf, and girls volleyball.

The sports will have to be played with various social distancing and mask requirements, such as for coaches, officials, and players on the bench. There will also be contact restrictions and other modifications these sports will have to adopt in order to have contests. The exact modifications will be determined in the next few weeks.

One thing that will not happen is the return of sports before students return to school, in whatever

form that is.

The MIAA will vote on a recommendation from the Sports Medicine Committee not to start practices until school has started.

“We determined that it did not really make sense to have extracurricular activities before getting the kids back in school,” said one committee member.

As of now, Sept. 16 is a date that has been floated around for a start to practices. This could still put the start of contests around Oct. 1. Teams would likely play a modified season with fewer games, something that was going to be attempted with spring sports before the governor shut down schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020

school year.

One sport that may not be played, however, is football.

Because of the amount of close contact, many modifications to the game have been recommended, including no tackling or otherwise any contact. It is essentially being suggested that Massachusetts schools play touch-only football this fall.

The MIAA is considering a number of possibilities, including deferring the season to a point in the year where it could be played with fewer restrictions.

All of the committees will be meeting in the near future to discuss the most recent guidance from the state.



Baseball action

Photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

The Western Mass. Wood Bat League, an age 25-and-over league that typically plays from April through August followed by fall league in September and October, was able to start playing in early July and has remained in action since the beginning of Phase 3. Last Sunday morning, the Sultans and Wildcats played a close game at Whitney Park in Ludlow, with the Wildcats prevailing 4-3. Players in the league come from all over the Western Mass. region.



Soccer moved to ‘moderate risk’ category

With the change, soccer could be played this fall with modifications

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – At the beginning of the summer, soccer, basketball, football, and lacrosse were deemed “high-risk” sports.

These determinations were made at the beginning of July, when Phase 3 of Gov. Charlie Baker’s re-opening plan started.

The designation banned any type of contests from being played, an only allowed for non-contact, socially distant workouts.

Now, soccer has been quietly moved to the “moderate risk” category, paving the way for games in one of the most popular sports in the region to be played.

Last year, Western Massachusetts was well-represented in the state finals, with Westfield, South Hadley, Belchertown all being represented. South Hadley girls, and Belchertown boys soccer

both were state champions and were looking forward to defending those titles this fall before the pandemic stopped sports from being played.

Because of the original Phase 3 determinations, the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League was unable to play games, eliminating any chance for area high schoolers to prepare for the fall season. However, if the MIAA makes a determination for what sports will play and when, it could open the door for captains practices to take place provided the players

follow the rules.

This fall was supposed to be the final Western Mass. tournament sponsored by the MIAA before the system goes to a statewide tournament.

A proposal for a Western Mass. tournament sponsored by the PVIAC has been placed on the back burner until the pandemic is over.

The state was scheduled to make public some of the guidance for return to play for soccer this week. The MIAA’s COVID-19 Task Force, Tournament Management

Committee, and Sports Medicine Committees will all make recommendations to the MIAA Board of Directors on the best way to proceed for soccer once all the guidance has been issued and has an opportunity to be evaluated for feasibility.

With the current timeline in place, it is likely the soccer season, typically 16-18 games in Western Massachusetts, will be reduced to 10-12 games and could be limited to certain geographic areas to limit travel.

Sports



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Brian Robie placed second in the Tri Track race last weekend at Monadnock Speedway

Rameau picks up big Tri Track win at Monadnock

WINCHESTER, N.H. — Sam Rameau used a pass of Ron Silk in the second half of Saturday's Tri Track Open Modified Series race at Monadnock Speedway to seal the deal.

The Westminister, Massachusetts, native earned his first career Tri Track win in thrilling fashion, holding off some of the country's best Modified talent over the final stretch of the third race of the season.

Rameau pocketed a \$6,000 check with the victory as part of a lucrative purse that was over \$40,000. It was the second stop of the season at the Winchester, New Hampshire, oval for Tri Track.

"We put a lot of work into this," Rameau said. "A lot of people don't know that its my full-time job to prepare these race cars. I put my heart and soul into this. The emotions are high."

The final corner was nearly a repeat of the July 5 Tri Track race at Monadnock. While Rameau took the top spot from Silk on lap 72, and looked to be driving off to victory, a caution flag with just four laps to go doubled the field back up. Rameau spun his tires on the restart, but got away, before another quick caution stopped the action.

Although Rameau hit the final restart perfectly, he couldn't quite get away from Ronnie Williams.

Williams, the two-time and defending SK Modified champion at Stafford Motor Speedway, drove deep into turn three, slammed the back of the No. 06 Central Mass Tree machine of Rameau, and lost control. Williams would spin as the car dropped fluid, while the rest of the field rushed to find a way around. Some made it, some didn't.

Monadnock Speedway NH-TRA Modified regular Brian Robie escaped the final corner carnage to finish second, while Matt Hirschman, a winner at Star Speedway on July 25, finished third. Woody Pitkat drove the Stan Mertz prepared No. 6 to a fourth-place finish, with Anthony Nocella finishing the top-five. Matthew Kimball was sixth,

followed by Craig Lutz, Ron Silk, Carl Medeiros Jr. and Austin Kochenash.

Thirty-one cars attempted to qualify for the Monadnock 100, with 26 of them taking the green flag in the feature. Austin Kochenash, Brian Robie, Matt Hirschman and Kirk Alexander picked up an extra \$300 each for winning heat races part of the Pepsi Challenge. Woody Pitkat would collect the Hard Charger award courtesy of Green Construction, a \$500 bonus.

The Tri Track Open Modified Series returns to the track on Saturday, October 24, with the series debut at Stafford Motor Speedway in Connecticut. The announcement of the Stafford event was made on Saturday in the drivers meeting. The Stafford Springs Modified Classic will round out the 2020 slate for Tri Track.

For more information on the Tri Track Open Modified Series, visit tritrackmodifieds.com and follow the series on social media.

RESULTS: Tri Track Open Modified Series; Monadnock Speedway; August 15, 2020:

1. Sam Rameau
2. Brian Robie
3. Matt Hirschman
4. Woody Pitkat
5. Anthony Nocella
6. Matt Kimball
7. Craig Lutz
8. Ron Silk
9. Carl Medeiros Jr.
10. Austin Koche-nash
11. Les Hinckley
12. Matt Swanson
13. Tommy Barrett
14. Ronnie Williams
15. Richard Savary
16. Kirk Alexander
17. Dave Sapienza
18. Cameron Sontag
19. TJ Bleau
20. Derek Robbie
21. Calvin Carroll
22. Ben Byrne
23. Ryan Doucette
24. Chase Dowling
25. Chris Pasteryak
26. Anthony Sesely
27. Kurt Vigeant

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

Baseball clinics to take place in August

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Parks and Recreation Department in conjunction with the John Murphy Youth Baseball League will be conducting baseball clinics. To sign up for the clinic, please contact Coach Terry Murphy at tmurphy1hcc@comcast.net.

Clinics will follow all of the board of health requirements regarding masks, spacing and cleaning of equipment. Players with their own bats and helmets or catcher's gear are encouraged to bring to the clinic.

Potential Baseball Clinics Schedule

All clinics to take place at Mackenzie Field

Free of charge for Holyoke residents, \$10 for non-residents

Wednesday, August 12	1 0
a.m. – 12 noon (age group 7-10)	
Wednesday, August 12	
5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. (age group 14-17)	
Thursday, August 13	
5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. (age group 11-13)	
Monday, August 17	1 0
a.m. – 12 noon (age group 7-10)	
Wednesday, August 19	
10 a.m. – 12 noon (age group 11-13)	
Wednesday, August 19	
5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. (age group 14-17)	
Thursday, August 20	
5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. (age group 7-10)	
Wednesday, August 26	
10 a.m. – 12 noon (age group 14-17)	
Wednesday, August 26	5:45
p.m. - 7:45 p.m. (age group 11-13)	

Clinics will be run by former Holyoke Community College baseball coach Terry Murphy. He will be assisted by Bob Praticco, former Holyoke Catholic coach, Mike Afflitto, Smith Academy coach, and Mike Prattico, Amherst High School coach. Added to the coaching staff is Dioni Soriano Bello, a former player in Japan and Latin America. They will also be assisted by several former high school players as well. A trainer will also be on hand for each session!

Owl Tournament raises funds for WSU sports

WESTFIELD – The 14th Annual Owl Club Golf Tournament brought together Westfield State athletics alumni, parents, coaches and sponsors for a day of fundraising and fun at the Ranch Golf Club on Monday, Aug. 3.

Westfield Bank served as the lead sponsor of the event, joined by Whalley Computer Associates, Barnes and Noble College Bookstores, and Real Dry Waterproofing.

A group that included football alumni Wayne McGillicuddy, Eric Washburn, Dan Letteriello and friend Corey Nevins won the tournament with a 13-under par 59. The group eagled the first hole after McGillicuddy hit an approach shot two inches from the cup, and never looked back en route to the standout round of the day.

Women's lacrosse coach Jeff Pechulis' group took second with a score of 60, partnering with Peter Clark, and lacrosse parents Paul Barrett and Sean Gearin. They won a match of cards with a group featuring alumni Jack Mosko, Matt Barry and Richard Joseph.

Current Owls' baseball player Sean Moorhouse topped the men's long drive competition on 16, and Katie Sylvain won the women's long drive. Don Cretella and Jack Sheerin won the closest to the pin contests.

A total of 22 groups and 88 players registered for the event, which was held in a slightly different format in order to make concessions to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

"We moved to a tee-time format to avoid a big crowd at registration, so that the players streamed through in 1's and 2's, and many of the players took advantage of our online registration, which helped to limit contact and cash handling at the event itself," said Dave Caspole, Associate Director of Athletics. "Each player had an individual cart, all the staff and players wore masks at registration, and we served lunch on the course so that we could avoid having a crowd in any one area. The staff at the Ranch did a great job in helping us set up safe protocols that still let our players come out and enjoy a great day on the course."

"It was great to have a chance to see so many alumni and friends come out to support Owls' athletics," said Caspole. "We will total about \$14,000 raised to support our varsity athletic teams today, which is great considering we had to reduce the field due to the pandemic, and some of our regular participants were not able to travel this year, but we look forward to having a full field again next year if we are back to a more normal mode of operations."

BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

443 Springfield St. - Agawam
Monday - Friday 7:30 - 5PM
413-789-2181
www.vfauto.com

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE.

WARRANTY
3 Years / 36,000 Mile

From a basic oil change to complete car repair services, our professional staff can handle all of your needs!

AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR EXPERTS
WE FIX EVERYTHING!

MOTORCYCLE SERVICE.

We can handle all of your motorcycle's maintenance & tire needs, including MA State Inspections

**Inspections coming soon*

AUTOMOTIVE SALES.

Preowned vehicles you can trust! Financing available.

Value & Friendly service is in our name!

FREE Wi-Fi • Shuttle Service • Financing Available • Rental Cars Available • State of the art equipment

Paik wins Amateur golf championship

ESSEX – Allison Paik, 18, of Ledgemont Country Club, has defeated Anne Walsh, 18, of The Country Club, by a score of 7&6 to win the 117th Massachusetts Amateur Championship following Friday’s 18-hole Championship Match at Essex County Club in Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts. It’s the largest margin of victory in the Championship Match in the past decade.

Both players have committed to playing for Columbia University’s women’s golf team. This is the first Women’s Amateur Championship win for Paik, a Sharon resident who graduated Wheeler School in Providence. Paik never had to play all 18 holes in her four match play contests. She played a combined 56 holes in those matches, winning 25 of them. Walsh, of Jamaica Plain, finished runner-up for the second consecutive year. Last year, she lost to Angela Garvin in the Championship Match, 4&3. This year, she won Mass Golf’s Ouimet Memorial Tournament champion and finished runner-up at the Massachusetts Girls’ Junior Amateur Championship.

In Semifinal matches this morning, Walsh defeated Rebecca Skoler (Pine Brook Country Club) in 21 holes, and Paik defeated Mary Mulcahy (Hatherly Country Club), 4&3. Match Summary: Allison Paik put on a stellar putting performance as she won five holes with five birdies on the front nine, including three of the first four holes. She needed to play just three more holes to close out the match. On the 12th hole, Walsh overshot the green and missed her par attempt. That allowed Paik to chip on and then make her par putt.

President’s Cup: Alexandra Pool (Pine Brook Country Club) won the President’s Cup for the first time. Pool, 15, a Boston native, defeated Wellesley’s Pam Kuong (Charles River Country Club), 2&1, closing the match out with a par on the 17th hole. Kuong, 59, won the 2019 Mass Golf Anne Marie Tobin Women’s Player of the Year Award. The President’s Cup consisted of players who finished 17-32 in stroke play qualifying, which took place Tuesday and Wednesday. The Championship Flight featured players seeded 1-16.

Rapid Planning Phase of Soldiers’ Home expedited capital project begins

Engineering firm Payette begins Rapid Planning Phase, engaging stakeholders to inform project roadmap

BOSTON - The Baker-Polito Administration on Monday announced that a vendor has been selected and has started work on an expedited capital project to reimagine the future of the Soldiers’ Home in Holyoke. Payette has been awarded the contract for the first phase of the expedited capital project, the Rapid Planning Phase, which consists of completing a needs assessment and conducting stakeholder engagement. This work will inform the development of the implementation plan to meet the April 15, 2021 federal Veterans’ Affairs’ State Home Construction Grant application deadline.

Payette’s 12-week engagement work will identify a sustainable, public health-centered, implementation roadmap to provide significant upgrades to the Holyoke Soldiers’ Home.

“Our administration is committed to supporting important facility improvements for the Soldiers’ Home to ensure the facility can provide the best care possible for the veteran residents who have served our country with honor,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “We look forward to this next phase of these planned upgrades which include both immediate infection control solutions and longer-term improvements.”

“This capital improvement project provides an opportunity to reimagine the Holyoke Soldiers’ Home to meet the current and future needs of our rapidly diversifying veteran population,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. “It’s a critical priority for the Commonwealth as we seek to ensure the heroes who have served our country are able to access the very best care possible.”

“We have a unique opportunity to shift

the models of long-term care that we offer to our veterans, following the pandemic that has shined a spotlight on necessary and urgent infection control needs,” said Acting Veterans’ Services Secretary Cheryl Lussier Poppe. “We look forward to the continued progress that will be made at the Soldiers’ Home in Holyoke, ensuring our most vulnerable demographic of veterans are cared for in the safest, and most appropriate environment.”

“We are continuing to move forward with our comprehensive planning process for making necessary capital improvements at the Holyoke Soldiers’ Home,” said Secretary of Administration and Finance Michael J. Heffernan. “This upcoming work and our continued collaboration with state, local and legislative partners will help ensure the Holyoke Soldiers’ Home accommodates the current and future needs of Massachusetts veterans.”

“We are pleased to be partnering with Payette for this rapid planning process,” said DCAMM Commissioner Carol Gladstone. “They bring a great understanding of the needs and issues our veterans are facing today.”

The scope of work includes four key elements:

Update needs assessment: Develop an updated needs assessment to include current and future demographic needs of veterans in Massachusetts.

Engage stakeholders: Using a variety of methods, gather input from a broad base of stakeholders to develop strategic guidelines for transforming the Home, including veterans and their family members, staff and management, members of the Board of Trustees, federal and state legislative leaders, local officials and interest groups, veteran advocates, and administration officials.

Prioritize infection control: Review and evaluate ongoing infection control measures and infrastructure upgrades to ensure the highest standards are met in light of the pandemic.

Explore feasible implementation scenarios: Outline up to three scenarios with order-of-magnitude cost estimates, financing options, and realistic timelines for regulatory approvals, design, and construction.

While the expedited capital project will address long-term facility viability, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS), the Department of Veterans’ Services (DVS) and the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) have been addressing immediate capital needs, including a \$6 million refresh of units, to significantly improve infection control for the residents and staff. The refresh includes refinishing the living and working environment to support infection control, including the installation of air purification units.

Family Owned

Since 1985

Visit TJBarkMulch.com for Coupons

18 Different All Organic Double Ground Premium Mulches
Pine • Spruce • Hemlock • Cedar • Red, Black & Brown
Playground • Forest Blend • Topsoil • Seasoned Firewood

Now CARRYING DECORATIVE STONE

We are a mulch manufacturer, not a resaler of other people's products. This means no middleman, and you save on the best product around. Come visit us on the web for great deals!
413-569-2400 | 25 Sam West Road, Southwick, MA | 860-654-1975

Town of Agawam

36 Main Street
Agawam, Massachusetts 01001-1837

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN,
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

HAMPDEN SS.

To either of the constables of the Town of Agawam.

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in State Elections to vote at:

Precinct 1: Robinson School, 65 Begley Street
Precinct 2: Clifford M. Granger School, 31 South Westfield Street
Precinct 3: Agawam High School, 760 Cooper Street
Precinct 4: Roberta G. Doering School, 68 Main Street
Precinct 5: Benjamin J. Phelps School, 689 Main Street
Precinct 6: James Clark School, 65 Oxford Street
Precinct 7: Agawam Junior High School, 1305 Springfield Street
Precinct 8: James Clark School, 65 Oxford Street

on TUESDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Primaries for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

SENATOR IN CONGRESS	FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE FOR CONGRESS	FIRST DISTRICT
COUNCILOR	EIGHTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT	SECOND HAMPDEN & HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT	THIRD HAMPDEN DISTRICT
REGISTER OF PROBATE	HAMPDEN COUNTY

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting. Given under our hands this thirteenth day of August, 2020.

Vincent Gioscia
Town Clerk

MELCHIORI

Tax and Financial Services

IRS Problems? Let a professional handle it for you. Call us anytime.

COMPLETE TAX SERVICES

- Personal • Business
- Corporations • Partnerships

Registered Notary Public

Telephone: **(413) 786-8727**
Fax: (413) 786-1833
betty@melchioritax.com
pauline@melchioritax.com
24 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030

FREE TAX PREP
to Certain Deployed Military

LIBRARY ■ from page 1

but was able to successful thanks to in-person browsing, curbside pick-up, and online options.

The program used the curbside pickup option for most of the books, and young readers used the Beanstalk App to help track and log reading times. This is an important step in the summer reading program, and many readers were able to easily use the app for their reading log. The logs were used to decided the winners of prizes provided by the library. There were six prizes over the course of six weeks, as well as four grand prizes at the end of the program.

Children's librarian Pamela Weingart explained that the grand prizes were awarded to readers on the last day of the program. Weingart will be contacting the winners in order to connect them with their prizes.

For those who won prizes, they were able to choose between in-person pick up and curbside pick up to get their prizes. Some of the summer programs included supplies kids had to pick up in order to complete their project, they were about to pick these up by curbside pick-up or make an appointment for in person pick up. Having supplies and books available these ways, worked well for the patrons as they were able to make an appointment during their free time or they could choose to pick it up instead. These two methods are continually working well as the library moves forward.

The library started offering in person browsing by appointment and made that work for a few weeks before adding curbside pick on the same days of in person browsing. Now patrons are able to do either during the Monday, Wednesday, Friday hours, this has been working well for the library. For the books that are returned from patrons, the books immediately go into quarantine for seven days. The books will stay on the patron's library card and account for the extra seven days that the books are in quarantine, once the books are accounted for and scanned in the books will disappear from the patrons account. No late fees are being charged during this phase of reopening, so people will not be penalized for the extra seven days that are required to quarantine the books.

"We're following state rules and we're also following studies done by larger libraries and researchers who found that books and plastic surfaces should be quarantined for 72 hours." Library Director Nancy Siegel said. "We decided to hold the books and other items in quarantine for a longer time in order to be safe and cautious about the products coming back to us. Also we looked at the costs of cleaning before quarantining and decided to quarantine the products for a longer time, as it's not a definite that we can fully clean the products."

Everything that is brought back is dropped into the drop box, as they library will not be accepting returns in person. This is part of their quarantine schedule for returns. Patrons can certainly wipe down any product that they receive but the products get cleaned and quarantined before being sent out.

If people are browsing the library and pick a book for more than five minutes before deciding they don't want that book, there are specified racks for those handled books. Each book on the return rack is cleaned and put into quarantine to ensure that the products are safe for the next pepsin who may want them. The only product not being cleaned regularly are the newspapers that the library offers. As they are unable to properly wipe down a paper newspaper, Siegel advises people to be aware of this fact and to be aware of their personal sanitation when coming into the library. Some furniture, like some of the chairs and tables have been removed to discourage groups from coming in and socializing closely together, though there remains a few singular chairs and rocking chairs for those who want to sit in the library to read. Each seat is separated by six feet or more.

Also in accordance with basic health guides, the staff stays six feet apart as often and as much as they can, there are



Rose Dupre mans the check in desk, where she over-sees the in-person appointments for the day.



The library has sent up two tables for curbside pick-up items, with each person's name on their assigned bag.

multiple bottles of hand sanitizer available all through-out the library, and there are plexiglass sneeze guards set up at the information desk and each checkout spot up front. These were required to open, but the library took it one step further and added these sneeze guards to staff spaces as well. The staff is also taking extra steps and will wipe down books, DVD's, and other items to make sure that the library is staying clean and disinfected. "The staff has been wonderful, we're all working together. We all take shifts at the sign in desk, and the information desk when needed." Siegel said. "We've come together as a team really well and wen one person is out or has complications, someone else steps in."

The praise did not end at the staff members though. Siegel explained patrons have been very good about following direction, making and keeping appointments, and picking up their curbside pick-ups.

"Our patron have been amazing, they have their masks, they stay socially distant from others, and they've adapted to the changes we've made." Siegel said. "Many of them have been confused about the books staying on their card while they're quarantined, but after explaining it to them they're very understanding."

Siegel explained that they are starting a delivery service for those who are unable to come out to the library to grab things, there was only one person signed up the first week, but there are now eight people signed up.

"I'm currently running the drop off service until we can find someone else to take over." Siegel said. "I'm really enjoying it because I get to see and meet with patrons for a bit and that's what I've missed the most. This is typically a face to face job and that has been lacking with COVID."

The drop off services are available for Agawam and Feeding Hills, and patrons can call the main number and ask for the information desk to inquire further. The library is hoping to regain hours on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday in October. As the state is currently in Phase 3, they have limited hours, but Siegel is hoping to extend hours as the state continues to open.

The library is constantly listening to the state and health officials to know what to do next, they are additionally reminding people of health and safety protocols at the sign in desk in the from of the library. Those who make browsing appointments have 45 minutes to browse and check out books, when they walk into the library they will need to check in at a welcoming desk where the appointments for the day are listed. The greeter there will explain that patrons need a mask, and if they do not have one available the library will provide one. The welcoming desk has hand sanitizer as well as the rest on the library, and patrons will be asked to keep socially distant whilst inside the library. Siegel explained that staff is as close to their normal hours as possible with the new operations of the library, and they're also using their Face-



PHOTOS BY SHELBY MACRI

From left; Chad Pelley, Deb Proulx, and Nancy Siegel work the front desk and information desk for those in the library and those call in.

book page more during this time. There are updates, important information, and general conversations on this page and it has been a helpful operation for the staff and the patron to connect. Though it's difficult to merge onto online, the staff is trying their best to make these new operations work.

In order to schedule an in person browsing appointment or a curbside pick-up, patrons can call the main number to set up times to go to the library.

The system has been quite successful. "I have really enjoyed the curbside pick-up," said Kerry Koehler, a Feeding Hills resident. "I have used it several times and the folks at the library have been so wonderful and helpful."

Patrons can also make appointments to use the computers offered at the library, though only a few are operational as the library is trying to keep be distanced and

safe whilst at the computers as well. Siegel lastly mentioned that they are trying to upgrade their Wi-Fi connection, as many people will use the library when they are in need of internet connection.

"I know that the connection isn't the strongest at the library, and many people will be in the parking lot to connect but the signal isn't strong enough." Siegel said. "We're hoping to get IT to help and make the connection stronger so people can connect while in the parking lot. Many people come here since they can't go to cafe's or other public areas to get internet connection like they used to."

While the library has made many adjustments already to be open and running post quarantine, they are trying to further their adjustments to help serve everyone. For more information, or to make an appointment at the library residents can call the main number.

The Dance Slipper



Located at 3 Industrial Road, Southwick, MA

For More Details
Visit www.thedanceslipper.com
or Call (413) 569-3896

Owner & Artistic Director, Brenda Barna
Certified by Dance Masters of America & Dance Educators of America

Classifieds

13 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE Call us toll free 800.824.6548

FOR SALE

ANTIQUE AND PERIOD CHAIRS
- Restored with new woven seats -
Many styles and weaves available. Call
(413)289-6670

DISH TV - \$59.99 For 190 Channels
+ \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free
installation, Smart HD DVR Included,
Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions
apply. Call **1-877-925-7371**

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$160.00
Seasoned cut & split \$200.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for
outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & vol-
umes **guaranteed!!** New England
Forest Products **(413)477-0083**

MISCELLANEOUS

A PLACE FOR MOM. The nation's
largest senior living referral service.
Contact our trusted, local experts to-
day! Our service is FREE/no obliga-
tion. CALL **1-855-799-4127**

**DEALING WITH WATER DAM-
AGE** requires immediate action. Local
professionals that respond immedi-
ately. Nationwide and 24/7. No Mold Calls.
1-800-506-3367

DO YOU HAVE chronic knee or back
pain? If you have insurance, you may
qualify for the perfect brace at little to
no cost. Get yours today! Call **1-800-
217-0504**

**INVENTORS- FREE INFOR-
MATION PACKAGE** Have your
product idea developed affordably by
the Research & Development pros
and presented to manufacturers. Call
855-380-5976 for a free idea starter
guide. Submit your idea for a free con-
sultation.

FOR SALE

LIFE ALERT. 24/7. One press of
a button sends help FAST! Medical,
Fire, Burglar. Even if you can't reach
a phone! FREE brochure. CALL **800-
457-1917**

**MOBILEHELP, AMERICA'S PRE-
MIER** MOBILE MEDICAL ALERT
SYSTEM. Whether you're Home or
Away. For Safety and Peace of Mind.
No Long Term Contracts! Free Bro-
chure! Call Today! **1-844-892-1017**

**OXYGEN-ANYTIME. ANY-
WHERE.** No tanks to refill. No deliv-
eries. Only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved!
FREE info kit: Call **1-855-917-4693**

PROMOTE YOUR PRODUCT, ser-
vice or business to 1.7 million house-
holds throughout New England. Reach
4 million potential readers quickly and
inexpensively with great results. Use
the Buy New England Classified Ad
Network by calling **(413)283-8393**,
classifieds@turley.com. Do they work?
You are reading one of our ads now!!
Visit our website to see where your
ads run
communitypapersne.com

STAY IN YOUR HOME longer with
an American Standard Walk-In Bath-
tub. Receive up to \$1,500 off, including
a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty on
the tub and installation! Call us at
1-866-945-3783.

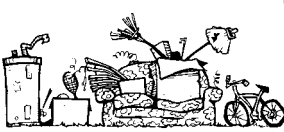
**STOP STRUGGLING ON THE
STAIRS.** Give your life a lift with an
ACORN STAIRLIFT! Call now for \$250.
OFF your stairlift purchase and FREE
DVD & brochure! **1-844-325-8610**

Buying? Selling?

Our
Classifieds
Get Results!



SERVICES



2**A CALL WE HAUL
WE TAKE IT ALL
WE LOAD IT ALL**
Lowest Rates,
accumulations, junk, estates,
attics, garages, appliances,
basements, demo services.
10% disc. with this ad of services.
Dumpster Rentals available for rent.
All Major CC's
CALL NOW **(413)531-1936**
acallwehaul@gmail.com

BILODEAU AND SON ROOFING.
Established 1976. New re-roofs and
repairs. Gutter cleanings and repairs.
Licensed/ insured. Call **(413)967-
6679**

**BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH
REMOVAL** attics, cellars, garag-
es cleaned. Light moving. Gutters
Cleaned. Family owned/ operated
since 1950 **(413)537-5090**

**CHAIR SEAT WEAVING & refinish-
ing** - cane, fiber rush & splint - Class-
room instructor, 20+ years experience.
Call Walt at **(413)289-6670** for esti-
mate.

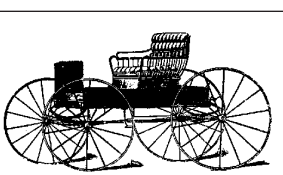
DRYWALL AND CEILINGS, plas-
ter repair. Drywall hanging. Taping &
complete finishing. All ceiling textures.
Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls.
(413)563-0487

**DUMPSTERS ON WHEELS (413)
277-5660**

NEED AN ILLUSTRATOR for your
next ad, website, or book project?
Freelance illustrator Sadie Parrotta is
taking commissions. Examples of her
work can be seen at sadieparrotta.
weebly.com. Contact her at sadie.par-
rotta@gmail.com for more information.

SERVICES

PAINT AND PAPER Over 25 years
experience. References. Lic #086220.
Please call Kevin **978-355-6864**.



**WE RENOVATE, SELL & PUR-
CHASE** (any condition) horse drawn
vehicles such as sleighs, carriages,
surreys, wagons, dr's buggies, drive-
able or lawn ornaments. Some fur-
niture and other restoration services
available. Reasonable prices. Quality
workmanship. Call **(413)213-0373**
for estimate and information.

**DEMERS & SONS
BELCHERTOWN, MA**

CHILD SERVICES

***NEW STATE LAW.** Anyone adver-
tising caring of children must list a li-
cense number to do so if they offer this
service in their own home.

ELECTRICIAN

BILL CAMERLIN- ADDITIONS,
service changes, small jobs for home-
owners, fire alarms. Fast, dependable,
reasonable rates. Insured, free esti-
mates E280333. 24 hour emergency
service. **(413)427-5862**

**CHAMPAGNE ELECTRICAL
CONTRACTORS** Service changes/
upgrades, generators, phone/data wir-
ing, smoke detectors. Insured. Credit
cards accepted. License #22882A
(413) 210-9140

SERVICES

**DEPENDABLE ELECTRICIAN,
FRIENDLY** service, installs deicing
cables. Free estimates. Fully insured.
Scott Winters electrician Lic. #13514-B
Call **(413)244-7096**.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

CERAMIC TILE INSTALLATION
Kitchen, bath, foyers. Referenc-
es. Lic #086220. Please call Kevin
(978)355-6864.

DELREO HOME IMPROVEMENT
for all your exterior home improve-
ment needs. ROOFING, SIDING,
WINDOWS, DOORS, DECKS & GUT-
TERS. Extensive references available,
Fully Licensed & Insured in MA. & CT.
Call GARY DELCAMP @ **413-569-
3733**

**HOME IMPROVEMENTS. RE-
MODELING** Kitchens, baths. Ceram-
ic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering,
textured ceilings, siding, decks. Insur-
ance work. Fully insured. Free esti-
mates. **(413)246-2783** Ron.

**WATER DAMAGE
CALL JAY (413)436-5782-
FOR REPAIRS
COMPLETE DRYWALL
SERVICE. FINISHING,
PAINTING, CEILINGS
(SMOOTH OR TEXTURED).
40+ YEARS EXPERIENCE.
FULLY INSURED.**

LANDSCAPING

****ALL SEASON**** Specializing in
shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliv-
eries, loader, backhoe, insured. Pro-
fessional. Please call Bob **(413)537-
5789 (413)538-7954**.

SERVICES

**A+ ROZELL'S
LANDSCAPING &
BOBCAT SERVICE**
Excavator Services
Overgrown property?
Extreme Brush Cutting!
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arborvite Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Maintenance
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal/
Clean-outs
Insured
413-636-5957

CHAMPAGNE LANDSCAPING
Weekly, bi-weekly mowing, Spring,
Fall Clean-ups, trimming, mulch, stone
beds, excavating. Total yard mainte-
nance. Call Dan **(413)682-4943**

**DAVE'S LAWN AND GARDEN,
LLC-** Landscape design & mainte-
nance
Patios & walkways
Stump grinding
Senior Citizen/ Veteran's Discount
Certified/ Insured
Call Dave **(413)478-4212** for your
free estimate.

MASONRY

**STOP WET
BASEMENTS
ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT
WATERPROOFING**

All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatch-
way doors, basement windows, chim-
neys rebuilt & repaired, foundations
repaired, basement waterproofing sys-
tems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free
estimates. Lic #14790. Call **(413)569-
1611, (413)374-5377**

PLUMBING

**GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING
& HEATING** Lic #19196 Repairs &
Replacement of fixtures, water heater
installations, steam/HW boiler replace-
ment. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30
years experience. Fully insured. \$10
Gift Card With Work Performed. Call
Greg **(413)592-1505**

**LINC'S PLUMBING
LIC. #J27222**
"New Season"
"New Projects"
Call LINC'S
For Your Connection
(413)668-5299

ROOFING

EXPERIENCED ROOFER quality
work. Best prices for sheds, garages,
and ranches. **(413)786-7924**.

FREE ROOF INSPECTIONS. All
types of roofing, shingle, flat and slate.
Call Local Builders **(413)626-5296**.
Complete roofing systems and repairs.
Fully licensed and insured. MA CS
#102453. Senior Discount. 24 hour
service. Veteran Discount.

TREE WORK

AAA1 H & H TREE SERVICE
Fully insured. 15 yrs experience climb-
ing. Skid steer work, land clearing. Call
Dave. **413-668-6560** day/night.

DL & G TREE SERVICE- Every-
thing from tree pruning, tree removal,
stump grinding, storm damage, lot
clearing and brush chipping. Honest
and Dependable. Fully insured. Now
offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran
discount. Call today for free estimate
(413)478-4212

SMALL ENGINE

**LAWNMOWER TUNE UP
& REPAIR**
A&M TUNE-UPS
Push Lawnmowers,
Riding Mowers and
Small Engine Repair.
Work done at your home.
**FREE PICKUP OF
UNWANTED LAWN EQUIPMENT**
Call Mike (413) 348-7967

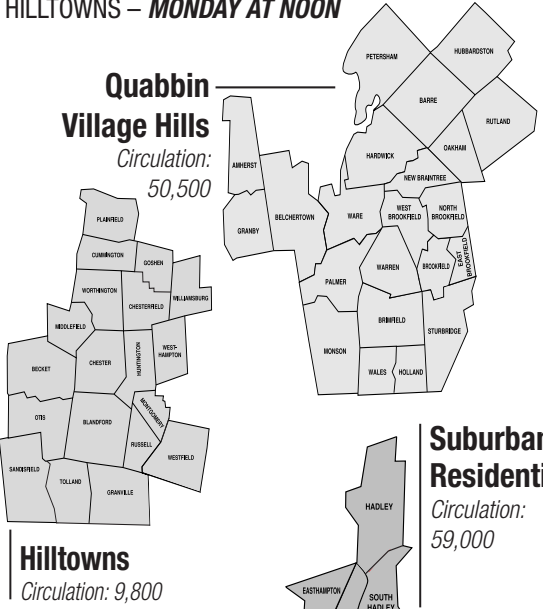
FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or call toll free: 800-824-6548

DEADLINES:

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN – **FRIDAY AT NOON**
HILLTOWNS – **MONDAY AT NOON**

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00



Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or
the Suburban Residential ZONE
for \$26.00 for 20 words plus
50¢ for each additional word.
Add \$10 for a second Zone
or add \$15 to run in
ALL THREE ZONES.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____

Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# _____

Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____

Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

First ZONE base price _____ Includes additional words

Add a second ZONE **\$10.00**

Add a third ZONE **\$5.00**

Subtotal _____

x Number of Weeks _____

TOTAL Enclosed _____

Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):

☐ Quabbin

☐ Suburban

☐ Hilltowns

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

Classifieds

13 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us toll free 800.824.6548

SERVICES

STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave **413-478-4212**

AUTO

CARS/TRUCKS WANTED!!! All Makes/ Models 2000-2019! Any Condition, Running or Not. Top \$\$\$ Paid! Free Towing! We're Nationwide! Call Now: **1-888-513-1505**.

CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS
FREE TOWING
FAST SERVICE
CASH PAID AS IS
CALL OR TEXT
413-219-6839

AUTO

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Get cash for as is unwanted autos

- Cars/trucks
- Free towing
- All makes
- All models

413-246-5351
ask for Joe

CAMPERS

MOTOR HOME FOR SALE
2007 Winnebago Adventurer Model 33V. Ford Chassis with V10 Engine. 49326 miles, 2 slides, original owners, non smokers. \$34,500.00 (413) 566-3167

PETS

RETIRED RACING GREYHOUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION
SPAYED/NEUTERED, WORMED, SHOTS, HEARTWORM TESTED, TEETH CLEANED

MAKE A FAST FRIEND!

GREYHOUND OPTIONS INC.
CALL MARY AT 413-566-3129
OR CLAIRE AT 413-967-9088
OR GO TO
WWW.GREYHOUNDOPTIONS.ORG

HORSES

HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS offered year round at our state of the art facility. beginner to advanced. Ages 4 years to adult. Boarding, sales and Leasing also available. Convenient location at Orion Farm in South Hadley **(413)532-9753** www.orionfarm.net

LEARN TO RIDE jump, show! Beginner to advanced. Qualified instructors. boarding, training, leasing. IEA teams. Year round riding programs. Open horse shows. Gift certificates available. **860-874-8077 Suffield, CT** endofhunt.com

HELP WANTED

DRIVER - CDL CLASS A PNEUMATIC TANK & DUMP TRAILER. EXPERIENCED ONLY. RB Enterprises **413-583-8393**

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

REAL ESTATE

PALMER 1 BR- QUIET secure country location. Locked storage & laundry in basement. K/DR combo-LR- full bath. Nice layout. No smoke/pets. F/L/S \$800 Breton Est. **413-283-6940**

VACATION RENTALS

WARM WEATHER IS Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.



REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

HCC receives \$1 million grant for STEM Scholars program

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College has been awarded a five-year, \$1 million grant from the National Science Foundation that will enable students majoring in STEM fields to qualify for scholarships of as much as \$6,500 a year toward tuition and fees.

The scholarships are open to current and incoming HCC students enrolled full time or part time in chemistry, biology, biotechnology, environmental science, computer science, engineering, mathematics, physics or other STEM areas of study.

Students selected for the scholarship awards will become part of HCC's STEM Scholars 2.0 Program. HCC started a STEM Scholars Program in 2015 after receiving its first five-year STEM grant from the National Science Foundation.

"We are really excited to be re-funded for this program so we can continue and expand the work that we've been doing for the past five years," said Ileana Vasu, HCC professor of math and coordinator of HCC's STEM Scholars program. "The grant not only provides significant money to students for college but will enable us to focus on culturally relevant practices in STEM that will help us work toward equity in education for all members of our community."

HCC STEM Scholars are required to complete a one-credit STEM seminar each semester and attend several STEM events each semester they are enrolled in the program. The NSF STEM Scholarships continue each semester students remain in good academic standing.

The scholarship application deadline for the 2020-2021 academic year is

Sept. 4. Awards will be announced by Sept. 8, the first day of classes of the fall 2020 semester.

Applicants must be enrolled in a STEM program, demonstrate academic ability or potential, and demonstrate financial need. Full eligibility guidelines for the NSF Scholarship in STEM can be viewed at hcc.edu/stem-scholarship, where there is also a link to the online application.

For more information, please contact Ileana Vasu at ivasu@hcc.edu.

LOCAL Opportunity IS KNOCKING EDITOR POSITION

Award-winning, family-owned Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking an energetic person to join them as editor of two of its weekly papers.

The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills and have telling a community's stories in their DNA. They must also successfully execute an array of tasks including managing a staff writer, copy editing and guiding coverage. The editor is also expected to gather news and write stories for the two papers as well as for other companywide publications.

If you're a self-starter who enjoys community journalism, who in fact might consider it a calling, and who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers, we encourage you to apply for this position.

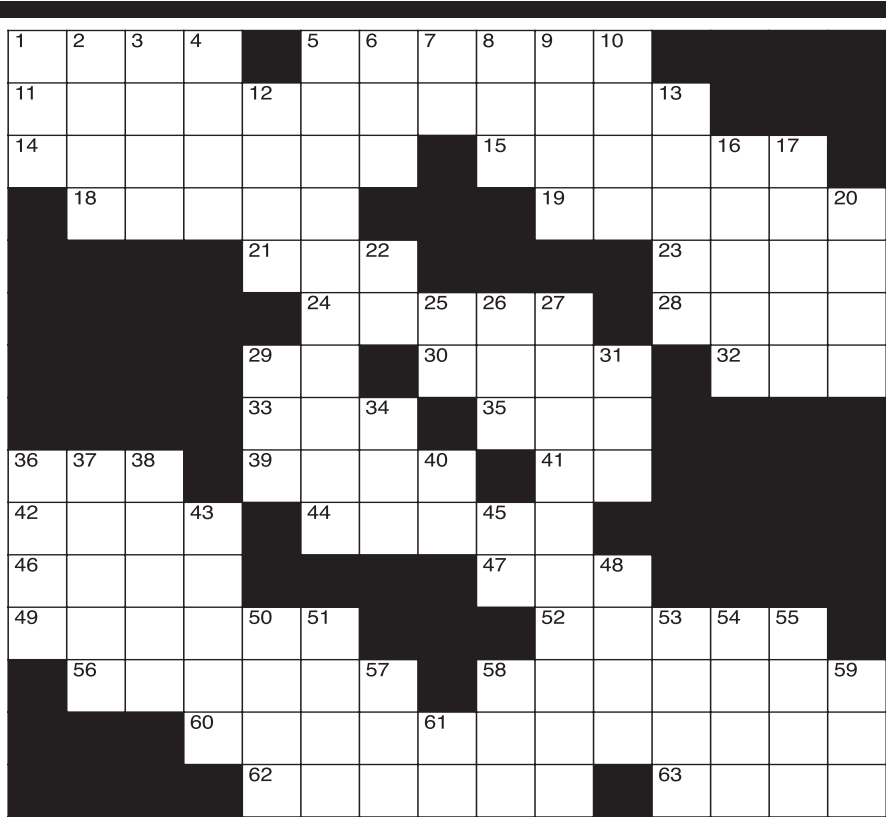
Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- Willingness to mentor a staff writer and correspondents
- Own camera and photography experience preferred
- Editing experience and the ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for our editor's position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to
Managing Editor Eileen Kennedy at ekennedy@turley.com.



agawamadvertisernews.turley.com



CLUES ACROSS

1. Popular musical awards show
5. Speech in one's honor
11. A state of poor nutrition
14. Not ingested
15. More lacking in taste
18. "Popeye" cartoonist
19. Helps to reduce speed
21. January 1 greeting (abbr.)
23. Georgian currency
24. Proverb expressing a truth
28. Jewish calendar month
29. Volume measurement
30. Fair-skinned
32. Patti Hearst's captors
33. Have already done
35. Touch lightly
36. Autonomic nervous system
39. Plant part
41. College degree
42. Military alliance
44. Tokyo's former name
46. Carpenter's tool
47. Before
49. Consent to receive
52. Passages
56. The Duke of Edinburgh
58. Utter repeatedly
60. Linked together in a chain
62. Quality that evokes pity
63. Maintained possession of

CLUES DOWN

1. U.S. military school
2. Controls
3. Away from wind
4. Grab quickly
5. Being everlasting
6. Vase
7. Atomic #3
8. Type of medication
9. Encircle with a belt
10. Belonging to you
12. American state
13. City in Zambia
16. Good Gosh!
17. Of the country
20. Helsinki district
22. 36 inches
25. Reporters' group
26. The voice of Olaf
27. Explains in detail
29. Tooth caregiver
31. One point south of due east
34. Scottish river
36. Elsa's sister
37. Civil Rights group
38. Line of poetry
40. Doctor
43. Fatty acid
45. Avatar (abbr.)
48. Awe-inspiring garden
50. Fall down
51. Rock icon Turner
53. Asian country (alt. sp.)
54. UK museum network
55. Stairs have at least one
57. Part of (abbr.)
58. Simpson trial judge
59. Sun up in New York
61. Exclamation of surprise

Public Notices

AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing via Zoom on **Monday, September 14, 2020 at 6:30PM** for all parties interested in the appeal of Viktor Savonin, who is seeking a Variance from Ch.180-41 of the Town of Agawam's Zoning Ordinances to be allowed to subdivide a conforming lot into 2 separate nonconforming lots at the premises identified as 71 Maynard Street.

Doreen A. Prouty
Chairperson
Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals
8/20, 8/27/2020

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD
The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet

remotely through Zoom on **Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 6:00 PM**. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Columbia Gas for a residential gas connection on property located at 805 River Road.

<https://zoom.us/j/97674067236?pwd=YTJ0cmQDMdTjOFgrNHg5Q-1VaRnpXdz09>
Webinar ID: 976 7406 7236, Passcode: 375013.
By Order of
Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
8/20/20

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD18P2062EA
In the matter of:**

Ada E Mahoney TRUST CITATION
To all interested persons:
A Petition has been filed by: **William Rohan** of Holyoke, MA requesting that William Rohan shall be removed as Trustee and that **Thomas R Rohan, Deborah Lynd** be appointed as successor trustees without giving sureties for the due performance of their said trust. The Petitioner further requests that the trusts be clarified all as more fully set forth in said petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before **10:00 a.m. on the on 09/07/2020**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a

timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections withing thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 06, 2020
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
8/20/2020

PUBLIC NOTICE
On **Wednesday, August 26, 2020**, OLitude Lake Management will be conducting an aquatic plant management program at **Silver Lake in Agawam, Massachusetts**. The use of the lake's water will be restricted as follows:

- Swimming, Fishing, and Boating** – Restricted until completion of the treatment on August 26th
- Direct Drinking** – Restricted for 3 days or until August 29th
- Irrigation** – Restricted

for 5 days or until August 31st

Livestock Watering – Restricted for 1 day or until August 28th

If you need additional information, please feel free to contact the Silver Lake Association or SOLitude Lake Management at (508) 885-0101.
8/20/2020

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

How to submit legal notices

All legal notices to be published in the Agawam Advertiser News should be sent directly to notices@turley.com. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Jamie Joslyn directly at 413-283-8393, ext. 216.

Turley Publications Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

Native PEACHES APPLES BLUEBERRIES

E. Cecchi Farms

1131 SPRINGFIELD STREET
FEEDING HILLS, MASS. ☎ "Everything you'd grow if you had forty acres."



[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [g](#)

Stellato Home Services

- Attic & Basement Cleanouts
- Bobcat Services • Gutter Cleaning
- Storm Damage Cleanup
- Pre-Sale Home Improvements

789-6382

Thank You Agawam



Park Square Realty has been professionally serving Agawam and Feeding Hills for 33 Years.

Call for a free market value of your home

The Park Square team looks forward to providing you with outstanding service and expertise in the sale or purchase of your next home. Contact us for all your real estate needs and see why Park Square Realty is The Best Way Home.

AGAWAM/ WEST SPRINGFIELD OFFICE
470 Westfield Street, Suite 2,
West Springfield • 789-9830

WESTFIELD OFFICE
44 Elm Street, Westfield • 568-9226

parksquarerealty.com

Locally Owned • Proven Success • Trusted Reputation

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

A	M	A	S		E	U	L	O	G	Y							
M	A	L	N	U	T	R	I	T	I	O	N						
U	N	E	A	T	E	N			C	R	U	D	E	R			
	S	E	G	A	R					D	R	O	G	U	E		
						H	N	Y				L	A	R	I		
							A	D	A	G	E		A	D	A	R	
							D	L		P	A	L	E		S	L	A
							D	I	D		D	A	B				
A	N	S				S	T	E	M		B	S					
N	A	T	O			Y	E	D	D	O							
N	A	I	L							P	R	E					
A	C	C	E	P	T					A	D	I	T	S			
	P	H	I	L	I	P				I	T	E	R	A	T	E	
						C	O	N	C	A	T	E	N	A	T	E	D
							P	A	T	H	O	S		K	E	P	T

WE'VE EXPANDED OUR WEB SITE

PUBLIC NOTICES

ARE NOW ONLINE

1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com

2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

UMass Amherst will make standardized tests optional for first-year applicants for the next three years

AMHERST – Beginning with the spring 2021 term and continuing for each spring and fall term through spring 2023, the University of Massachusetts Amherst will make standardized tests optional for its first year entering applicants.

For the past several months, the university has monitored how possible, safe and secure it will be for students to take the SAT or ACT.

James Roche, vice provost for enrollment management, said that in recent weeks it has become obvious that the challenges to testing presented by the coronavirus pandemic will persist in the months ahead.

“UMass Amherst draws applications from throughout the world and few, if any, states and countries currently offer testing sites that provide the access and safety that students, families, and schools have come to expect,” he said. “This is especially true for students who already encounter barriers in pursuit of a college education, including under-represented minority, first-generation, and low-income students. Given all these considerations, going test optional is clearly the right choice.”

Historically, UMass Amherst has used a holistic review to evaluate applicants. The quantitative assessment component of that review was done using a formula that combined the applicant’s high school GPA and the best combination of test scores. Roche said the university’s research shows that of the separate components, the high school GPA is a stronger predictor of student performance, persistence and success; however, it is also known that the combination of the two components provides an even stronger predictor than either the GPA or test score alone.

The university has analyzed three years of data and more than 100,000 applicant records to develop a formula for its test-optional assessment that uses the high school GPA as the base. For applicants who either have or will submit test scores, UMass Amherst will compare the result of the formula with and without the test score included and give the applicant the highest value of the two. This test-optional approach applies to all majors. As it always has, UMass Amherst will continue to consider the rigor of students’ high school coursework in its assessment, especially for courses that apply most directly to the applicant’s intended major.

Roche said, “UMass Amherst has committed to being test-optional for the next three years. As one of the country’s top-25 public research universities, we look forward to using the test-optional approach during this period to learn more about the relationship between high school grades and standardized test scores, and to develop even better models for predicting student success in college. Our mission is to identify and recruit students who can grow and thrive at UMass Amherst, progressing to earn their degree as effectively and efficiently as possible.”

Additional information about UMass Amherst’s test-optional approach can be found at <https://www.umass.edu/admissions/test-optional-policy>.

CALL YOUR TURLEY REP TODAY! 800-824-6548



YOUR LOCAL
TRUSTED
RELIABLE
DEPENDABLE

HOMIE
PROs

1 ELECTRICIAN

Home Owner's Electrician
Angelo J. Mazza Electrician
Lic. No. 39940 E / Fully Insured
Senior/Veteran Discounts
(413) 433-2707

2 FLOOR COVERING

Quality Flooring & Professional Install
MARTIN'S
floor covering inc.
COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL
501 Southampton Rd Westfield, MA 01085
413-568-4460 1-800-498-4460
www.martinsfloorcovering.com

3 FUEL/HEATING OIL

Family Owned & Operated Since 1962
(413) 733-5088
(800) 529-5088
www.baystatefueloil.com
• Heating Oil Delivery • Heating Service
• Air Conditioning Service • Fuel Payment Plans
• New Customer Specials • And More!

4 IRRIGATION

Lawn Sprinkler Systems
Lawns • Gardens • Perennial Beds
413-569-2033
Fully Insured • Free Estimates

5 PLUMBING & HEATING

MA LIC#9036 AGAWAM, MA
COMMERCIAL - RESIDENTIAL - SERVICE
(413) 789-2260
Specializing in on-demand water heater installation and repairs

6 LANDSCAPING

Patios • Walls • Walks • Stairs
Over 20 Years Experience • Owner On Site • Guaranteed Work
Specializing in Unique Hardscape Design & Installation
CRWLandscapes@aol.com 413-821-9498

7 ROOFING & SIDING

OVER 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
• Specializing in Residential & Commercial Industrial Roofing
• Siding • Repairs
• Senior Discounts
• Metal Roofs
• Windows & Gutters Installed • Excellent References
Licensed & Fully Insured • MA Lic# 170804 • CT Lic# 0632625
FREE ESTIMATES 413.786.4081

3

EASY WAYS TO SUBSCRIBE TODAY

If you're enjoying
this FREE edition of
Agawam Advertiser News

**PLEASE CONSIDER
SUBSCRIBING**

Current recipients of our weekly paper
enjoy town news, local stories and articles
of interest generated in Agawam
and its surrounding communities.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!



Each week you'll receive

TOWN HALL NEWS • BUSINESS HAPPENINGS • AREA EVENTS • SPORTS
COMMUNITY STORIES • SCHOOL COVERAGE • CLASSIFIEDS & MORE!

1

Use our website
to securely subscribe
online at

AGAWAMADVERTISERNEWS.TURLEY.COM

2

CALL US

1-413-283-8393

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER!**

Yes!

I want to
subscribe to
*Agawam
Advertiser News*

Enclosed is my payment for:

- ☐ \$35 1 year in state
☐ \$40 1 year out of state
☐ \$50 2 year in state
☐ \$60 2 year out of state

☐ CHECK ENCLOSED ☐ CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD

3

Please complete this form,
and mail it in a secure envelope to:

Agawam Advertiser News
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069

☐ New

☐ Renewal

☐ Gift

A GIFT CARD WILL BE SENT
TO ANNOUNCE YOUR GIFT!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Credit Card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CV2 code: _____

Signature _____

GIFT TO:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

AAN20TMC